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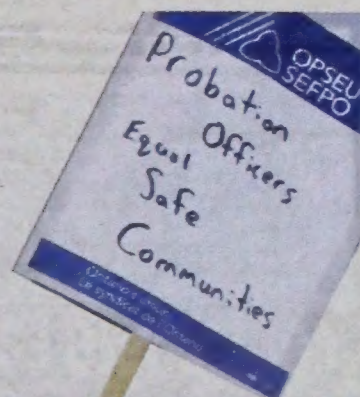
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Thursday, January 15, 2009

\$1.00 includes GST

Vol 1 Issue 51

County Voice



Local Probation and Parole Officer Terry Goodwin gave up his lunch hour to be a part of the informational picket. Goodwin is just one of the 5,500 employees represented by OPSEU working in correctional services.

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter

OPSEU Asking Members to Vote 'No' for Government Offer

Corrections Workers Could Strike

Ontario's correctional services workers could be going on strike in the near future if they decide to reject a government offer for a new collective agreement.

On Monday, Ontario Public Service Employees Union (OPSEU) representatives and workers, including local Probation and Parole Officer Terry Goodwin, participated in an informational picket in front of Minden's Ontario Government building while on their lunch hour.

"We're going to be suggesting a 'no vote'," said Derek Bailey, OPSEU mobilizer. The old agreement between OPSEU and the Ministry expired on December 31. Members will vote on the new government offer on January 27-29.

OPSEU is urging its members to vote against the offer for a couple of key reasons. The government offer contains what the union describes as a 'punitive' sick time provision for correctional officers and youth workers: and corrections workers are unhappy with deteriorating working conditions, stress and overcrowding.

OPSEU represents 5,500 members in correctional services, including correctional officers, youth workers, and probation and parole officers. ■



Conservative Leader John Tory Mainstreets with Haliburton's Andrew Hodgson

John Tory Runs to Succeed Laurie Scott

By-Election expected by late March

Stephen Patrick
Editor

John Tory, Leader of the Official Opposition in Queen's Park, and newly-minted Conservative candidate in the soon-to-be-announced by-election in Haliburton - Kawartha Lakes - Brock, is taking nothing for granted. "I want to assure the electors in this riding that Laurie Scott will be by my side every step of the way if I'm successful in this by-election. She will be an essential part of my team, and she genuinely believes that I can be really good for this riding."

Last Friday Laurie Scott, Haliburton's local provincial member since 2003, resigned her seat to make way for Tory's candidacy. The Conservative leader ran and lost in the 2007 provincial election in the riding of Don Mills in Toronto, after representing Dufferin-Peel-Wellington-Grey for two years. There had been considerable pressure from within his own party for the leader to find a seat - and fast. Tory was hoping at one point that Prime Minister Stephen Harper would name an Ontario Conservative MLA to the Senate in last month, thus freeing up a riding - but it wasn't to be.

This paved the way for Laurie Scott's "selfless decision", as Tory referred to it last week, to resign her seat in his favour. For her part, Scott has defended her decision as being in the best interests of the party, and of the riding: "I believe that John Tory will be a great representative for this riding - and I'll be there to make sure the riding's interests are properly served," said Scott.

John Tory visited The Voice offices this week and in an extensive interview re-

peated his conviction that he could be an effective local MP, and detailed a number of issues he felt are of significant local importance. "I made not be in the mould of those whose families have been here for generations, but I want to be known as the fellow who really gets things done for the riding."

Tory has an extensive background in business, the media, philanthropy, sports management, and of course, politics. He also understands the importance of local media: "when I was at Rogers, Ted (the late Ted Rogers, founder of the company) kept asking me why we were broadcasting all these local council meetings, and I'd tell him, because people like to see themselves, and their aldermen, on TV. I completely respect the importance and role of local media - and they're the ones that will survive."

Tory's priorities range from extending hi-speed Internet coverage in the riding to ensuring the completion of the four-lane Highway 35 project. He also believes strongly in finding a way to combat the systemic poverty that afflicts some areas of the riding, many of which are in Haliburton County. "I'm a Conservative in money matters, particularly in how the public purse is managed, but I also have a strong social conscience. There must be ways to ensure that people in this County have access to adequate, affordable housing, and transportation. These solutions must be local; they have to come from within the community, but obviously with some government assistance. I keep saying that my priorities are the economy, the economy, and the

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To Play in
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Minden...
It's True...
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Spanish II

starts Wednesday January 12th

Ontario Building Code - General Legal

starts Monday January 12th

Bookkeeping for Small Business

starts Thursday January 15th

Pottery for Beginners

starts January 26th

Introduction to Computers I

Thursday January 29th

Introduction to Computers II

Thursday February 5th

Introduction to Computers III

Thursday February 12th

Microsoft Excel I

Tuesday February 3rd

Microsoft Excel II

Tuesday February 10th

Microsoft Excel III

Tuesday February 17th

Effective Public Speaking

starts Tuesday Feb 3rd

Conversational French II

starts Tuesday February 3rd

Youth Pottery (10-16yrs)

Starts Tuesday February 3rd

Kids Handbuilding Pottery (5-9yrs)

starts Saturday Feb 7th

Ontario Building Code - Small Buildings

starts Monday February 9th

Youth Pottery (10-16yrs)

starts Tuesday February 3rd

Quickbooks Pro

starts Thursday February 12th

Glassblowing Workshop

Saturday February 21st

Adobe Photoshop

Saturday February 21st

Microsoft Word I

Tuesday February 24th

Microsoft Word II

Tuesday March 3rd

Microsoft Word III

Tuesday March 10th

Clay Tiles - Decoration and Illustration

starts Thursday February 26th

Ontario Building Code - On-site Sewage Systems

starts Monday March 2nd

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The Lost and Found Wallet

Good Samaritan Does the Right Thing and Returns Cash

If you found a wallet with hundreds of dollars it and four credit cards, what would you do? Take the money and run or act as a good samaritan and return the items to their rightful owner?

Boyd Gerow of Bracebridge decided to do the latter. On Saturday, Jan. 10, Gerow discovered a wallet laying on the ground in the parking lot of a Home Depot in Bracebridge. When the 40-year-old picked up the lost wallet, snagging the contents inside never came across his mind.

"Oh God no," said Gerow. "I would never do that because I know I wouldn't want it done to me."

By looking through the wallet, he discovered the identity of the man whom it belonged to. Immediately, he tried to have the owner of the wallet, Jacob Wagenaar, contacted through the pager system in the store. Unfortunately, the Wenona Lake resident was nowhere to be found.

And Wagenaar didn't realize that he had lost his wallet until he was long gone from the Home Depot store.

"We were in Swiss Chalet and my partner Hazel asked me if I brought the gift coupon for our meal," explained Wagenaar in a phone interview with The Voice. "I went into my pocket and pulled it out but I went to reach for my wallet to pay for our meal, I felt that it wasn't there. My heart sank."

Wagenaar was carrying the large sum of cash in his wallet because he needed it for shopping on the holidays and filling his large SUV with gas.

After his initial stage of panic, Wagenaar, along with his Hazel and his sister-in-law went searching high and low for the crucial carrying case.

"We retraced our steps back to Home Depot. I looked everywhere, in washrooms, on the highway, and couldn't find it," he said. "Hazel and my sister-in-law said a little prayer in the car in

hopes of getting it back."

That prayer seemed to work, because get it back he would. Gerow found Wagenaar through the phone book and placed the call to the retired Wenona Lake resident with the news.

"At first, he left a message for me before I even got home," explained Wagenaar. "When I was able to speak to Boyd, his voice was so reassuring, it lifted a weight off my shoulders."

The next day, Gerow arranged to meet with Wagenaar to return the wallet to him. Wagenaar was so appreciative of Gerow's good gesture that he gave him a thank you card with a monetary reward inside. He also took him and his family out for Chinese food and brought Gerow over to his home.

"I knew right away that he was genuine and could tell that he's a great family man. He can come visit us any time he wants" said Wagenaar.

This wasn't the first time that Gerow performed a selfless act. When he lived in Hamilton he rescued tenants from an apartment building fire. ■



From left to right: Hazel Wagenaar, Boyd's daughters Trinity Gerow and Ashley Gerow, Boyd Gerow and Jacob Wagenaar.

Photo by Gloria Carnochan

Mark Arike

Staff Reporter

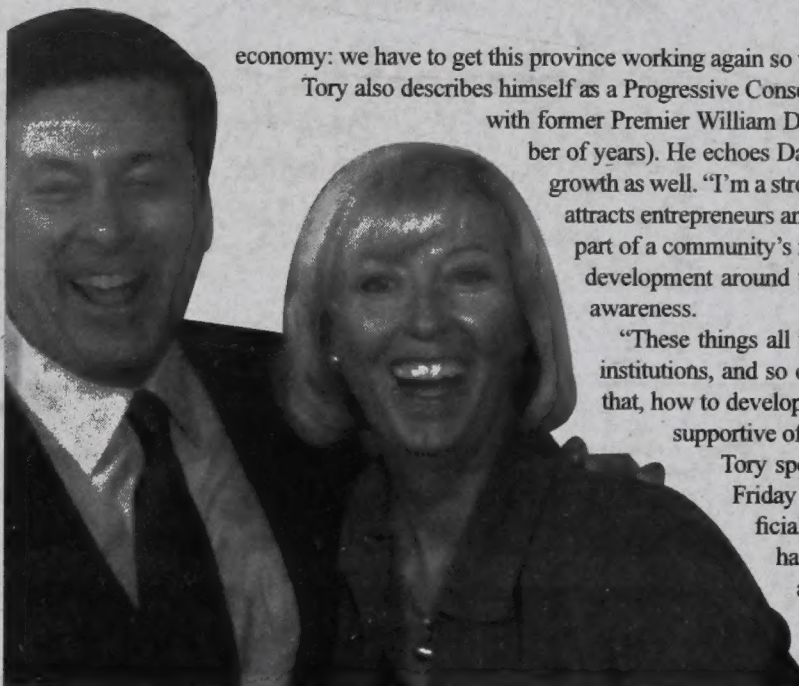
John Tory Runs to Succeed Laurie Scott

... from pg. 1

Also see Vox Pop on pg. 23



John Tory took time during his visit to speak with Voice Editor, Stephen Patrick.



John Tory and Laurie Scott

economy: we have to get this province working again so we can address those social problems."

Tory also describes himself as a Progressive Conservative, and is clearly proud of his long association with former Premier William Davis (he was Davis' Executive Assistant for a number of years). He echoes Davis' support of the arts as a catalyst for community growth as well. "I'm a strong believer in the importance of a creative class that attracts entrepreneurs and new ideas to a community. Strategic networks are part of a community's infrastructure - and it's our job to support economic development around the existing infrastructure of expertise and cultural awareness."

"These things all fit together - hi speed Internet - with the teaching institutions, and so on, and we have to learn how to take advantage of that, how to develop other businesses around that core. I would be very supportive of those types of initiatives."

Tory spent the four days following the announcement last Friday in Lindsay meeting with Conservative Party officials as well as doing some traditional political glad-handing, and says he's pleased with what he's heard, and the support he thinks will be there for his election run. "I do recognize the riding's history, and I think that as people realize how committed I am to the ridings' interests, they will be supportive. And I look forward to the challenge." ■

Young Student Survives Accident on School Roadway

Board to Change Bus Procedures

When you're just nine years old, and you suddenly want to get to the other side of the road, sometimes you just go as quick as you can. For Allison Paul, a Grade Four student at J.D. Hodgson Elementary School (JDH) in Haliburton, the decision to dart across the roadway between Haliburton Highlands Secondary School (HHSS) and JDH was almost fatal.

Allie was walking past the row of school buses when she made her decision to cross the road: she didn't see a van proceeding, at a slow pace, towards the High School. The driver had no chance to stop, and Allie had no chance to get out of the way. She was struck and knocked under the vehicle, causing serious, but non-life threatening injuries. She is being treated at Sick Children's Hospital in Toronto, and was operated on late Monday for hairline fractures in her jaw. She is expected to make a full recovery.

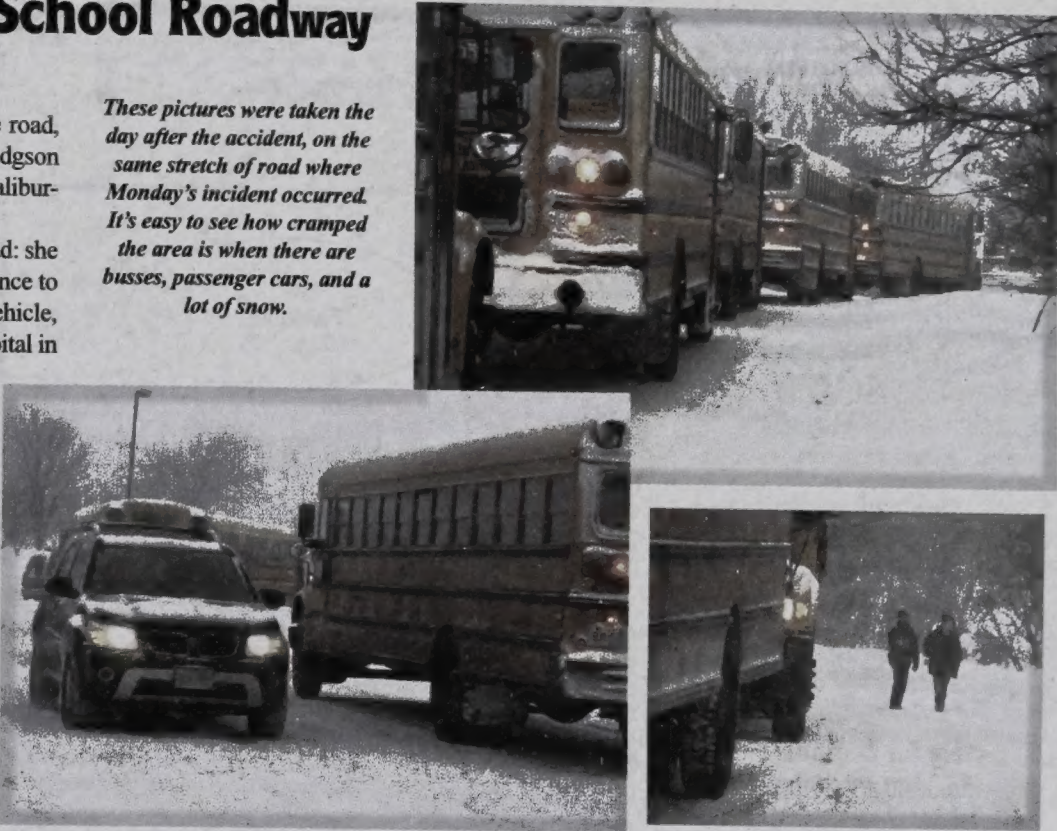
The road that links JDH and the High School is a very busy place each morning and afternoon as the buses line up waiting to drop off or pick up their passengers while parents use the roadway to drop children off, and others use it to walk between the schools. Sue Shikaze, the chair of Haliburton Highlands' Communities in Action committee, told The Voice that the lack of a dedicated pedestrian/cycling pathway through the School Board property that would link the three schools is a major reason why many local parents won't let their children walk or bike to school. "We've developed a plan over the past few years for a walkway that would run from the plane/locomotive to JDH, Stuart Baker Elementary (SBES), and the Health Centre. We've sent the plan to the School Board's Director of Education as well as the Municipality. It's unlikely the Board or Dysart will have the funds for it, but if they approve, community fundraising would get underway. Part of the route goes across a wetland, so a boardwalk would have to be established. Whether or not we could have it cleared in the winter is a good question." In fact, clearing a boardwalk of snow all winter long would be a very expensive proposition, even if it were feasible. And the cost to build the pathway could be as high as \$250,000.

At the moment there are no sidewalks on the road linking the schools, so children must share the walkway with the huge buses as well as with regular traffic. There are strict rules at both JDH and SBES that govern where parents may drop off or pick up their children. School staff monitor the main crossing point at JDH, for example, stopping the buses to allow the children to cross. But there is no supervision of children who are walking to any of the three schools from Haliburton Village itself, or from the High School: the roadway from the locomotive to JDH/SBES is a good 500 metres long, so school supervision is impractical, to say the least.

HHSS Principal Gary Brohman points out that this is the first accident of this kind to occur in his 37 years at HHSS. "You have to remember that we've gone from 18 buses to 39 over the years, but our safety record, until Monday, has been as good as it can possibly be." JDH Principal Traci Hubbert declined to comment on what steps might be taken to lessen the dangers, because "our focus this week is to give our children, some of whom have been traumatized by this incident, the support they need, and to ensure they feel safe and okay in this school."

Yesterday the Trillium Lakelands School Board announced that "review has taken place of the bus and walking procedures. The Board is installing a sign at the top and bottom of the hill, and are going to stagger buses to deter children from entering the area."

These pictures were taken the day after the accident, on the same stretch of road where Monday's incident occurred. It's easy to see how cramped the area is when there are busses, passenger cars, and a lot of snow.



THURSDAY



Chance of a few snow showers and flurries

▲ -19° ▼ -26°

FRIDAY



Mostly cloudy and cold with flurries

▲ -18° ▼ -23°

SATURDAY



Cloudy with a chance of light snow

▲ -5° ▼ -15°

SUNDAY



Mostly cloudy with flurries

▲ -7° ▼ -11°

MONDAY



Mostly cloudy with flurries

▲ -7° ▼ -12°

TUESDAY



Becoming partly sunny

▲ -9° ▼ -17°

WEDNESDAY



Mostly sunny and cold

▲ -10° ▼ -16°

AROUND THE REGION: Bitter cold temperatures will be experienced over the area on Thursday and Friday. Snow showers and flurries will be possible each day with highs in the teens below zero. Warmer weather will be experienced on the weekend with highs rising back into the single digits below zero. Light snow will be experienced on Saturday with flurries possible on Sunday.

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Jan 10, 2009

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Bonus Number 19

Encore 3891133

LOTTO SUPER 7

Jan 09, 2009

08 12 24 26 31 37 41

Bonus Number 02

Encore 7823118

TROPICAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Low/Otk	Friday Hi/Low/Otk	Saturday Hi/Low/Otk	City	Today Hi/Low/Otk	Friday Hi/Low/Otk	Saturday Hi/Low/Otk
Acapulco	31/23/sh	31/24/cl	33/23/cl	Montego Bay	29/23/su	29/23/su	29/23/cl
Antigua	28/22/ts	29/23/pc	29/24/ts	Nassau	24/17/ts	23/16/sh	24/20/cl
Barbados	31/24/ts	31/25/pc	29/26/dz	Port au Prince	29/23/pc	29/22/pc	31/24/cl
Bermuda	23/16/sh	22/16/sh	20/16/ra	Puerto Vallarta	28/18/pc	27/18/pc	24/18/cl
Cancun	25/17/ra	23/14/pc	26/18/pc	St. Thomas	29/23/ts	29/24/pc	29/25/sh
Curacao	32/25/su	31/26/pc	29/23/su	St. Maarten	28/22/ts	28/23/sh	29/26/ts
Freeport	22/14/ts	23/15/sh	24/18/pc	San Jose, CR	27/18/ts	28/18/pc	28/17/cl
Georgetown	31/25/ts	31/26/ts	30/23/ra	San Juan	29/22/ts	28/23/sh	28/22/su
Havana	25/17/ts	23/16/sh	21/18/cl	San Salvador	31/22/pc	30/22/pc	31/19/pc
Key West	24/17/pc	22/15/pc	20/16/pc	Santo Domingo	28/23/ts	30/24/ts	29/23/pc
Kingston	29/24/su	30/23/su	31/29/sh	Trinidad	32/26/pc	31/26/pc	32/27/sh

REGIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Low/Otk	Friday Hi/Low/Otk	Saturday Hi/Low/Otk	Sunday Hi/Low/Otk	Monday Hi/Low/Otk	Tuesday Hi/Low/Otk	Wednesday Hi/Low/Otk
Bancroft	-19/-26/sf	-18/-23/sf	-5/-15/sn	-7/-11/cl	-7/-12/pc	-9/-17/pc	-10/-16/su
Barrie	-18/-24/sf	-18/-22/sf	-4/-14/sn	-7/-10/cl	-6/-12/pc	-8/-16/pc	-9/-15/su
Dorset	-19/-26/sf	-18/-23/sf	-6/-15/sn	-7/-11/cl	-7/-12/pc	-9/-17/pc	-10/-16/su
Haliburton	-19/-26/sf	-18/-23/sf	-5/-15/sn	-7/-11/cl	-7/-12/pc	-9/-17/pc	-10/-16/su
Huntsville	-19/-26/sf	-18/-23/sf	-6/-15/sn	-7/-11/cl	-7/-12/pc	-9/-17/pc	-10/-16/su
Kingston	-17/-24/sf	-17/-21/sf	-4/-14/sn	-6/-9/cl	-6/-11/pc	-8/-16/pc	-9/-15/su
Lindsay	-18/-25/sf	-18/-22/sf	-4/-14/sn	-7/-10/cl	-6/-12/pc	-8/-16/pc	-9/-15/su
Minden	-19/-26/sf	-18/-23/sf	-5/-15/sn	-7/-11/cl	-7/-12/pc	-9/-17/pc	-10/-16/su
Oshawa	-17/-23/sf	-17/-21/sf	-4/-14/sn	-6/-9/cl	-6/-11/pc	-8/-16/pc	-9/-15/su
Ottawa	-18/-26/cl	-19/-23/cl	-9/-18/sn	-5/-13/sf	-8/-14/cl	-10/-18/cl	-11/-17/pc
Toronto	-17/-23/sf	-16/-20/sf	-3/-14/sn	-6/-8/cl	-6/-10/pc	-7/-15/pc	-8/-14/su

NATIONAL CITIES

City	Today Hi/Low/Otk	Friday Hi/Low/Otk	Saturday Hi/Low/Otk	Sunday Hi/Low/Otk	Monday Hi/Low/Otk	Tuesday Hi/Low/Otk	Wednesday Hi/Low/Otk
Calgary	8/-2/su	3/-4/su	5/-3/su	5/-8/su	-1/-8/su	-1/-8/cl	-4/-10/cl
Edmonton	2/-4/su	3/-8/su	1/-3/su	2/0/su	1/-5/su	-5/-12/cl	-6/-13/pc
Fredericton	-20/-26/cl	-22/-27/cl	-11/-22/sn	-9/-12/sn	-5/-9/sf	-6/-13/sn	-7/-13/pc
Halifax	-8/-14/sn	-13/-24/cl	-3/-14/sn	1/-3/sn	3/0/sn	0/-1/sn	0/-2/su
Montreal	-18/-24/cl	-20/-24/cl	-11/-23/sn	-9/-19/sf	-9/-15/cl	-9/-18/cl	-11/-16/pc
Regina	-7/-8/sn	-4/-16/sf	0/-2/cl	1/-4/su	0/-2/su	-2/-9/pc	-8/-16/sn
St. John's	-9/-18/pc	-14/-26/sf	-6/-8/su	-7/-7/cl	3/1/pc	3/1/sn	3/2/pc
Saskatoon	-4/-6/sn	-2/-9/sf	0/-2/cl	1/-4/su	0/-3/su	-2/-11/cl	-9/-13/pc
Vancouver	8/3/su	9/3/su	9/2/su	9/4/su	7/2/pc	7/2/sh	8/2/su
Whitehorse	-1/-7/sf	1/-6/sf	0/0/sn	0/0/sn	-2/-2/sn	-2/-7/sf	-6/-8/pc
Winnipeg	-16/-26/pc	-13/-22/sn	0/-6/sn	0/-3/sf	0/-2/sf	-1/-2/pc	-2/-7/cl

AREA ALMANAC

Last seven days	High	Low	Prec.
Monday 1/12	-4°C	-18°C	0.0 mm
Sunday 1/11	-6°C	-20°C	0.3 mm
Saturday 1/10	-7°C	-28°C	0.8 mm
Friday 1/9	-9°C	-25°C	0.0 mm
Thursday 1/8	-9°C	-15°C	0.0 mm
Wednesday 1/7	-4°C	-9°C	0.0 mm
Tuesday 1/6	-1°C	-10°C	2.3 mm

Readings from Haliburton/Stanhope Airport
www.stanhopeairport.com

Forecasts, graphs and data provided by Weather Central, Inc., Madison, Wis. © 2009

SUN & MOON

	Sunrise/set	Moonrise/set
Thu.	7:49 a.m./4:59 p.m.	10:57 p.m./10:04 a.m.
Fri.	7:48 a.m./5:00 p.m.	none/10:24 a.m.
Sat.	7:48 a.m./5:01 p.m.	12:07 a.m./10:44 a.m.
Sun.	7:47 a.m./5:03 p.m.	1:16 a.m./11:08 a.m.
Mon.	7:46 a.m./5:04 p.m.	2:23 a.m./11:35 a.m.
Tues.	7:45 a.m./5:05 p.m.	3:29 a.m./12:07 p.m.
Wed.	7:45 a.m./5:07 p.m.	4:31 a.m./12:47 p.m.

Last	New	First	Full
Jan. 17	Jan. 26	Feb. 2	Feb. 9

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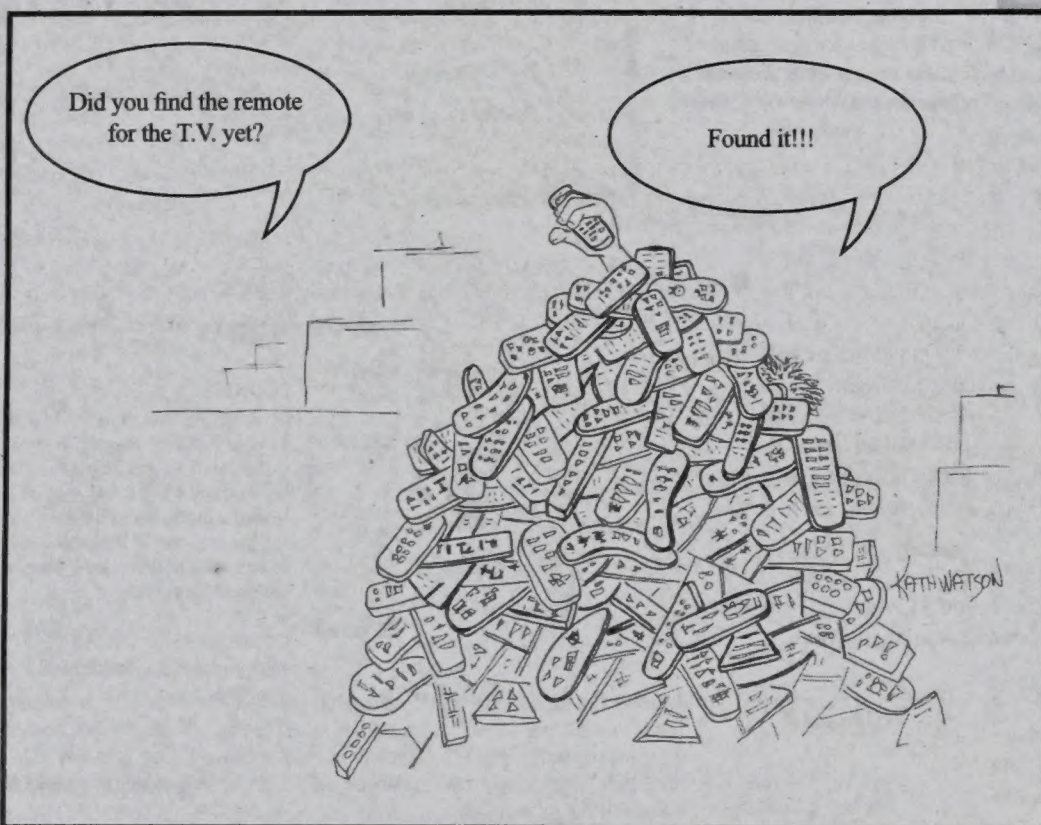
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Letter of the Week

Dear Editor:

"The kids are BORED and it is only getting worse."

Haliburton needs a million dollar library like Toronto needs another Tim Horton's!!!

Who decided Haliburton would benefit from a new library? Books are fast becoming a thing of the past, more for collectors. The Internet is now the number one place to find anything you need, and also the choice of research vehicle for our youth. Now that the schools require everything to be on Word, Excel and PowerPoint, every child has to find a way to get to a computer so the research is done there as well. I would think it would have been much wiser to put that money into something for our youth. What does Haliburton have for them? It had a rinky-dink skateboard park that amounted to one ramp and a rail and they are now losing that because of this library. The Bridge is trying to help our youth; perhaps the money could have been spent to help them. The Molou is probably not going to reopen so where do you think the kids that went there on a Friday night are now going to spend their time? On the streets.

As a small business owner in Haliburton I can attest to the fact that last summer was the worst summer for graffiti, kids 'hanging out', interference with our tourists, and crime. We had a stabbing, purse grabbing, trespassing and breaking into vehicles that I know of, who knows what else. The kids are BORED and it is only getting worse.

The long time members of Council etc are going to retire at some point and we will be looking to our youth to step up, so why aren't we spending some money to keep them on the straight and narrow?? A million dollars would go a long way, so spend a bit and upgrade the library we have or even move it to one of the empty buildings we have in town, improve the parking mess on York street somehow, then spend money on improving things for our future business owners and politicians.

What ever happened to the Haliburton Pool idea? The arena and the ball park sure could use a facelift. Help out the Molou, it will be missed by adults and kids. Has anyone noticed that businesses are closing in town?? Everything else will be run down and closed, but hey we will have a nice new, expensive and mostly vacant library.

Trace Morfey

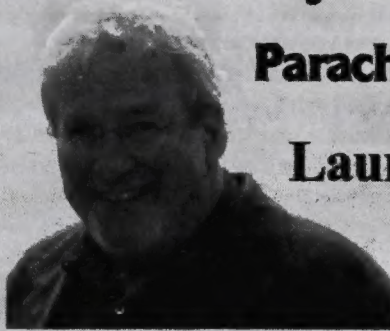
Press Play Movies & Games ■

EDITORIAL VIEWPOINT

by Stephen Patrick

Parachutes and Politicians

Laurie Scott Takes One for the Team



As Laurie Scott put it last week when she announced her resignation as this riding's Member of the Legislative Assembly

at Queen's Park, "There's been a Scott on the ballot in this riding for the last 40 years."

Those ballots would, of course, include the ones for her father Bill Scott, who served as Haliburton's federal Member of Parliament from 1965 until 1992. Laurie herself succeeded Conservative Chris Hodgson in 2003, and was re-elected in 2007, defeating her Liberal opponent by almost 10,000 votes.

But that was then, and this is now, and the now is Conservative Leader John Tory, who has very few if any links with Haliburton – Kawartha Lakes – Brock. When I asked Mr. Tory at his press conference in Lindsay last week if he realized that this riding has a tenacious tradition of supporting its own, he acknowledged the facts, but still maintained he would be a hard-working local MLA who would represent the interests of the riding with imagination and strength.

This riding has sent representatives of each of the three political parties to Queen's Park in recent times. Lindsay Mayor and Liberal John Aikens was a popular and effective MLA and Cabinet Minister for some 15 years, succeeding Conservative Glen Hodgson in 1975. We had a short flirtation with NDPer Dennis Drainville in the early 90s, and then returned to the Conservative fold in 1994. Laurie Scott has been a popular and respected MLA and many Haliburtonians were confused and upset by her resignation. Federal Conservative MP Barry Devolin told The Voice that Haliburton constituents have a strong, emotional connection to Ms. Scott, and to her family, politically speaking, and that an initial negative reaction should be expected. Ms. Scott has agreed to chair her party's election readiness committee, and has left the door open for another run at public office at the next provincial election mandated to the fall of 2011.

So why did Laurie Scott step down, and what does it mean for her future in the riding? The simplest answer to the first question is party loyalty. Laurie Scott and her family represent the bedrock of the Conservative Party in Haliburton and the Kawarthas. She's worked for the party all her life – and those loyalties clearly trumped her own self interest. Secondly, her new job can only enhance her standing within the party, and also, perhaps conveniently, provide an ideal way to get on close terms with every riding association executive, their volunteers, and potential candidates, right across the province. If John Tory wins the by-election he could well be a very effective voice for Haliburton at Queen's Park, which would go a long way to assuage any lingering resentment over a parachute candidate. And, if a Toronto riding opens up for Tory for 2011, there would nothing to prevent Scott from running again locally, and perhaps in the future drawing on those province wide connections to solidify her position as a major political player. She also appears absolutely genuine when she says that she believes John Tory will advance the riding's interest effectively.

"A week is a lifetime in politics" goes the cliché. Well, it's at least a couple of months before the by-election will be held, and almost three years before the next provincial election. Ample room for several political lives to be lived, both in this riding and at Queen's Park. Although, if John Tory wins, it may take a long while for Haliburtonians to get used to being represented by someone who doesn't consider the Kozy Korner to be their second home. ■

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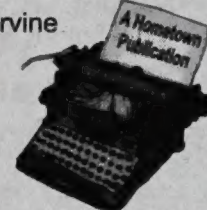
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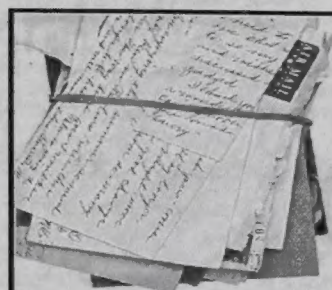
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More Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor:

"We need to train and hire more manpower and buy more equipment."

On Sunday, December 28th, we had yet another power failure. I spent the 18 hours it was down bailing out my basement on Madill Road near Gooderham. Gooderham was down 23 hours. Unfortunately, the sump pump runs on electricity and with the rain we had for two days previous, I had to fight a running battle to keep the sump hole from overflowing. I have not bought a cheap generator, because I know they will burn out if used over a period of days, like when we had the tornados and I can't afford the thousands to go high end.

This is the third power outage in a matter of weeks. One was planned. The second one I have no idea why it happened, because there was virtually no wind and only a few flakes falling, but it lasted from mid evening until four in the morning. Then there was this last one and I guess I was lucky because as I write this, there are still people without power.

Am I the only one getting tired of this? Is it now going to be the norm for everyone to have a backup gas polluting generator? I say let's have a little shake-up in Hydro's management. They are supposed to be providing a service to the public for money paid. Their service appears to be getting worse by the year and they want the government to allow an increase shortly. Why should we give them an increase for such shoddy service?

I have no problem with the front line workers. The ones who go out in the cold, rain, snow and wind usually in the middle of the night to get our power hooked up again. They probably don't get paid enough to do that, but they do anyway, working many hours overtime. They deserve the praise our firemen, medics, and police get.

My problem is with management decisions. Obviously the problem with the long waits for power to be restored rests with the lack of enough repair personnel to do the job fast enough. We need to train and hire more manpower and buy more equipment. The public is paying for a service from Ontario Hydro and we should be demanding they provide it, even if they are the only game in town. Here's a thought. Why not take some of these talented unemployed auto workers and retrain them for Hydro. Probably close the same pay and we make some auto workers and the public happier.

Ted Cumber, Gooderham ■

Dear Editor:

It was a pleasant surprise to hear about the Minden Kin Club winning the Hal Rogers Service Award for 2008, especially since it was mostly due to the ice racing series. In a small way I feel that I had some part in the development of the series. My first year of competition was in 1977 and at the first race event down in the swamp area below the arena, I was asked to take one of the Kinsmen for a ride in my car. That person was Tom Prentice. We chatted in great length about the sport which I learned about from my then employer Bob Attrell Sr. of Attrell Toyota in Brampton who had been ice racing as far back as the 60's.

Tom was hooked. He started racing himself in 1978 and has done so ever since. I know first hand of the effort involved in building the track at the fairgrounds and the time and dedication of all the Kinsmen members in spending time with them and helping out when asked at the end of a race day to move snow and water around in order to get the track ready for racing the next day.

I also know how much local business appreciates the business generated from the series. I have stayed at the Southwind Motel, formerly the E/J Motel since 1977 and have bought fuel and ate at the local restaurants in the area for past 32 years. I know of many of my fellow club members who have bought cottages and built homes in the area partly due to their ice racing participation.

I know that if I was to consider a move to the North Country that Minden would be my first choice and I would definitely join the Kinsmen Club. I have also participated in the spring clean-up of the fairgrounds for many years. I believe this recognition is long over due. I hope the council members of Anson, Hinden and Minden realize the value to the community of the ice racing series and do what ever it takes to ensure the venue at the fairgrounds continues to be available for the ice racing and various other events and give their full support to the Kinsmen Club.

Yours in sport, Bryan Rashleigh ■

Poacher Fined for Hunting Without a License

A Pickering man has been fined a total of \$3,000 for illegal deer hunting. Steven Davis, 45, was convicted of hunting antlerless deer without a licence, possessing a deer taken illegally, and making a false statement to a conservation officer. He was assessed a fine of \$1,000 for each offence.

The court was told that on November 7, 2008, a conservation officer checked Davis in Methuen Township, south of Bancroft. Davis was alone and driving a truck with a covered box. Davis said he had been hunting that day but had not shot anything. Further questioning and an inspection of the vehicle revealed an untagged antlerless deer hidden in the covered box.

Justice of the Peace Jason Mariasine heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice in Peterborough on January 8, 2009. Man fined for Trail Construction without a Permit

A Newcastle man has been fined \$500 for constructing a trail in Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Provincial Park without the authority of a work permit.

Donald Brooks, 56, pleaded guilty to the charge under the Provincial Parks and Conservation Reserves Act. In addition to the fine, he voluntarily rehabilitated the site prior to his court appearance.

Court was told that during the fall of 2007, Brooks constructed an all-terrain vehicle trail by cutting down trees and filling in holes where no trail had existed.

Justice of the Peace Jason Mariasine heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice, Peterborough, on January 8, 2009.

Kawartha Highlands Signature Site Provincial Park is a natural environment park that is approximately 37,587 hectares in size. The construction of any new trails in the Kawartha Highlands Park has been prohibited since June 2007.

\$3,000 Fine For Shooting Deer From Roadway

A Scarborough man has been fined a total of \$3,000 for charges related to shooting a deer from the roadway.

Roland Roussel, 46, was convicted of discharging a firearm from a roadway, possession of illegally killed wildlife and making a false statement to a Conservation Officer. He was assessed a \$1,000 fine for each offence.

Court was told that on November 15, 2008, during the deer season, Roussel was driving his vehicle on County Road 504 just outside the town limits of Apsley. He stopped his vehicle when he saw an eight-point buck cross the road and fired one shot from the roadway which killed the deer.

A concerned citizen, who heard the shot, noted the plate number of the vehicle and contacted the Ontario Provincial Police. The police responded and started the initial investigation. The Ministry of Natural Resources was also contacted and continued the investigation.

Justice of the Peace Jason Mariasine heard the case in the Ontario Court of Justice, Peterborough, on January 8, 2009.

To report a natural resources violation, call 1-877-TIPS-MNR (847-7667) toll-free any time or contact your local ministry office during regular business hours. You can also call Crime Stoppers anonymously at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).■

ISAAC ASIMOV'S SUPER QUIZ

Take this Isaac Asimov's Super Quiz to a Ph.D. Score 1 point for each correct answer on the Freshman Level, 2 points on the Graduate Level and 3 points on the Ph.D. Level.

Subject: 20TH-CENTURY MAP CHANGES

(e.g., 1979: The Sinai Peninsula was returned to _____. Answer: Egypt.)

FRESHMAN LEVEL

1. 1990: This European country was reunified.

Answer _____

2. 1993: Czechoslovakia divided into the Czech Republic and ____.

Answer _____

3. 1973: British Honduras was renamed ____.

Answer _____

GRADUATE LEVEL

4. 1995: Bombay was renamed ____.

Answer _____

5. 1972: East Pakistan changed its name to ____.

Answer _____

6. 1991: Estonia became independent from ____.

Answer _____

PH.D. LEVEL

7. 1993: Eritrea became independent from ____.

Answer _____

8. 1997: Zaire was renamed ____.

Answer _____

9. 1957: The British colony the Gold Coast became ____.

Answer _____

ANSWERS: 1. Germany. 2. Slovakia. 3. Belize. 4. Mumbai. 5. Bangladesh. 6. The Soviet Union. 7. Ethiopia. 8. Democratic Republic of the Congo. 9. Ghana.

SCORING:

18 points — congratulations, doctor; 15 to 17 points — honors graduate; 10 to 14 points — you're plenty smart, but no grind; 4 to 9 points — you really should hit the books harder; 1 point to 3 points — enroll in remedial courses immediately; 0 points — who reads the questions to you?

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Police Reports

Driver Charged

(Haliburton, ON.) — An officer from the Haliburton Highlands Detachment charged a Cambridge man with Racing over the weekend.

On Sunday January 11, 2009, shortly after 4:00pm an officer was patrolling Highway #35 in the Township of Minden Hills. The officer stopped a southbound Toyota that was doing more than 50 km/h over the posted 80 km/h speed limit.

The driver of the vehicle Roland Van Hazel 30 years of Cambridge has been charged with Racing Contrary to the Highway Traffic Act and the Toyota he was driving was seized for seven days.■

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THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Dysart in Review

Liz Danielsén

Staff Reporter

Early in July Council did a bit of a walkabout, brainstorming about the placement of the caboose and taking a firsthand look at improvements planned for the Rails End Gallery. Confirmation from the Municipality's insurance company confirmed that repairs on the caboose could proceed, so it was full steam ahead.

Despite discussions about increasing sign pollution, Council approved special events signs without the need for a permit. The sign by-law was also amended to allow personal fingerboard signs.

As part of a report from the BIA, Council accepted a recommendation to remove newspaper boxes from municipal property along Highland Street.

Development plans were heard for a new camp, Camp Gan Israel, on lands formerly held by Camp Kekeka. Council agreed to waive the requirement for a site plan agreement.

During July traces of oil were found along the Drag River below Highland Street. High water levels were blamed for the seepage, but no clear cause could be determined for this long standing problem. Working in conjunction with the Ministry of Environment, the Dysart Fire Department placed absorbent booms in the river in efforts to reduce the problem. The seepage continues to be monitored.

In August Council considered a plea for additional funding to make repairs to the West Guilford Recreation Centre. Council asked for an overall inspection of the facility and its furnace and will consider the request again.

MNR Minister Donna Canfield announced a \$3.9 million dollars in grants and a loan guarantees to restart the old Martin Lumber sawmill. Greenview Wood Products, the developer and owners of the sawmill, are embarking on an overall project worth \$12.3 million dollars which included setting up a 4 megawatt cogeneration operation. There has been no action on the project to date.

During August Council approved the plans for exterior improvements to the Rails End Gallery, but no decision was reached on the placement of the caboose.

Council also agreed to provide financial support towards implementing a Creative Business Incubator, part of a two year pilot project.

On the last day of the appeal period, Council received a formal appeal to the by-law passed in July that would facilitate the development of the Watercolours Condominium.

In August, Council approved a Bassmania Tournament to be held on Head Lake during the summer of 2009.

By September Council had considered a number of requests to assume private roads. Details of the requests varied, were frequently complicated and did not often satisfy those making the requests. Council also considered a case of indiscriminate dumping in September and decided to lay charges in efforts to send a message out to the public that dumping along roadsides or other unsuitable locations would not be tolerated.

During September, October and November, the proposed Watercolours development remained a bit of a hot topic, but units continued to be reserved. By late fall, when the developer held their open house (which was very well attended) over 50% of the units were pre-registered. The development remains a matter of interest to a lot of people who anxiously await the results of the OMB hearing.

In October Council received a complaint about the number of wood burning boilers in the community, which the resident felt posed both health and safety risks.

Earlier in the year, Council reviewed a request to rezone Island C in Kennisis Lake to allow development. The proposal met with considerable opposition and was finally withdrawn. In November Shall-May Holdings donated the island to the Kennisis Lake Cottage Owners Association to maintain in its natural state.

In December Council looked at a number of enforcement issues that will have an impact in 2009. Outdoor wood burning appliances were considered again and Council determined they could best be enforced through property setbacks. Portable or temporary buildings came under the microscope, a draft Road Damage Security by-law was considered as well as the storage of goods and materials on commercial and industrial properties, particularly in the Industrial park. These matters will all be back on the table in 2009. ■

Mark Arike's Top Five Lists for 2008 (not in order of importance)

Below are some of the unique people I have met from Haliburton County and abroad, and stories of interest I have covered.

Fascinating People Met (Non-Locals)

Pat Quinn, Team Canada Coach
Cam Wooley, OPP Sergeant, GTA Traffic Support Unit
Dr. Jean Clinton, Child Psychiatrist
Peter Fee, stroke survivor
Dala Girls, Universal Recording artists

Fascinating People Met (Local)

Bonnie MacAusland, missionary in Haiti
Val Craftchick, Shaman
Matt Duchene and Cody Hodgson
Kathleen Atkinson, Blacksmith
Charlie and Sheila Robb, Charlie's Organic Garlic

Generous Community Members

Judy Skinner, President of Haliburton Ladies Auxiliary
Const. Mark McMaster, Haliburton Highlands OPP detachment
Dale Walker, Executive Director, Haliburton Highlands Health Services Foundation (HHHSF)
Joanna Penfold, President, Minden Rotary Club
Kim Gonneau, fundraising cottager

Unique Stories

Brick of Raw Chocolate Mistaken for Hash, Issue 37
Bear Wanted for Break and Enter, Issue 25
Drug Abuse in County Series, several issues
Sweeping for Skating, Issue 19
Easy Access for All? Issue 17

Spot News (Breaking)

Local Man Assaulted (Attack at Codfather's Restaurant), Issue 12
Arrests Made in Major Drug Operation (Project Pirate), Issue 16
Arsonists Torch Caboose in Midnight Attack, Issue 18
Boy Scout Bus Crash, Issue 29
Three Hospitalized, One Charged...(Kennisis Lake Rd. accident), Issue 26

Fun-Filled Events Coverage

Kinmount Fair, Issue 32
Riverfest 2008, Issue 23
Razzamataz, Issue 13
Dorset Emergency Awareness Day, Issue 26
30th Home Show, Issue 19

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Minden Hills in Review

Liz Daniels
Staff Reporter

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Early in the summer, the Minden Hills Council welcomed news that the Beaver Theatre was to be revitalized, not only as a theatre, but as an all encompassing centre for the arts. Reconstruction work required will include an environmental audit in efforts to make the buildings operations completely 'green.'

A request in July by the Legal Aid Office for assistance in finding suitable office space sparked consideration to use Pritchard House as rental office space. Despite reports on the building and surrounding area remaining outstanding, Council showed a willingness to keep the building and make the necessary repairs.

Complaints were heard from a resident about noise emissions from the sewage treatment plant and Council's failure to install mufflers at the plant. Impending involvement by the Ministry of the Environment appeared to be the catalyst for Council to take appropriate action.

Late in July Council questioned whether Minden Hills was receiving fair value for the tax dollars they provide to the County. This prompted the County CAO to agree to provide details of all road improvement costs spent across the County. Council also looked (with no success) to the County for assistance in promoting the area through the Dimestore Fisherman television series. Council maintained that the County had enough staff and a substantial budget sufficient enough to assist with this type of promotion.

Increasing numbers of geese congregated along the riverbank and Rotary Park which prompted Council to consider best practices to reduce the problem before their sesquicentennial celebration. Use of a variety of methods to deter the geese were discussed including trained border collies, swans and even inflatable swans. Quotes were to be sought for a comprehensive goose management program to be included in the 2009 budget.

During August Council accepted a recommendation that the Iron Mine landfill be closed permanently. Prior to making their final decision Council sought public opinion and in September, angry public responses to the possibility of the closure resulted in a decision to create a transfer station at the site.

The problem of feral cats in the downtown core of Minden continued to exasperate Council. After much public outcry and oft heated debate among Council, they agreed to support a trial Trap/Neuter/Release Program. The trial program was one that would rely heavily on volunteers and donations, as no monetary

commitment was made to accompany Council's decision.

In October Council was faced with neighbours in dispute over the creation of unsightly multi-coloured fences that were considered an eyesore and source of amusement to others living in the area. Eventually time was allowed to make alterations to the height of the fence, but the lack of a fence by-law made giving further direction impossible. Staff members were directed to draft a by-law dealing with fences on property lines for consideration at a subsequent meeting.

Late in the fall Council announced their plan to proceed with an Economic Development Master Plan. The plan is intended to detail a long term development strategy. Council recognized the need to plan for growth in the downtown core and to establishing Highway 35 as a catchment area for future development. The County staff agreed to assist with getting the project off the ground and residents can look to mid June for a public meeting and presentation of a draft plan.

Council received a delegation in November asking for support to implement boating restrictions on South Beaver Lake. The small delegation was seeking a restriction on speed limits in the lake

and/or to limiting the size of motors. Although poised to lend their support to the process, a voice of caution about making decisions without hearing from both sides of an issue prevailed and Council agreed to defer their decision until February.

During December Council considered new draft regulations that, among other minor changes, will restrict overnight parking on snow plowing routes during the winter months. Council also reviewed a request by the Rotary Club to change the venue of their annual summer carnival to the municipal parking area. No decision will be made until Council meets in January.

In efforts to improve the quality of life in residential areas, in November Council reviewed and adopted a by-law that limits the number and duration of yard sales allowed each year in residential areas. In particular, the by-law will deter perpetual yard sales.

Finally, in December Council confirmed their intention to purchase the Twelve Mile Lake Church on Chambers Road. The purchase will result in a unique partnership for the care and use of the Church and surrounding property with the Friends of the Twelve Mile Lake Church. It will also create a greater variety of memorial options and reserve a picturesque little structure that has overlooked Twelve Mile Lake for over 110 years.■

"Council accepted a recommendation that the Iron Mine landfill be closed permanently ... angry public responses ... resulted in a decision to create a transfer station at the site."



Moments in time

THE HISTORY CHANNEL

On Jan. 19, 1953, episode No. 56, "Lucy Goes to the Hospital," of hit 1950s sitcom "I Love Lucy" airs for the first time. The episode, in which Lucy Ricardo, famously played by Lucille Ball, gives birth to a son, was one of the most popular in television history.

On Jan. 20, 1945, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, the only president to be elected to three terms in office, is inaugurated to his fourth term. In 1947, the 22nd Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was passed, limiting future presidents to a maximum of two elected terms in office, or one elected term if the president already served more than two years of another president's elected term.

On Jan. 21, 1977, U.S. President Jimmy Carter grants an unconditional pardon to hundreds of thousands of men who evaded the draft during the Vietnam War. In total, some 100,000 young Americans went abroad in the late 1960s and early '70s to avoid serving in the military. On Jan. 25, 1905, at the Premier Mine near Pretoria, South Africa, a 3,106-carat diamond is discovered during a routine inspection by the mine's superintendent. Weighing 1.33 pounds and christened the "Cullinan," it was the largest diamond ever found.

On Jan. 22, 1912, Florida East Coast Railroad opened, running between Key West and the mainland. The railroad closed in 1935. Three years later, the roadway was paved, bringing automotive traffic to the Florida Keys for the first time.

On Jan. 23, 1922, at Toronto General Hospital, 14-year-old Canadian Leonard Thompson becomes the first person to receive an insulin injection as treatment for diabetes. The teenager improved dramatically, and the University of Toronto immediately gave pharmaceutical companies license to produce insulin, free of royalties.

Jan. 24, 1935, canned beer makes its debut. The Gotfried Krueger Brewing Company delivered 2,000 cans of Krueger's Finest Beer and Krueger's Cream Ale to Richmond, Va. Ninety-one percent of the drinkers approved of the beer, driving Krueger to give the green light to further production.

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An Award for Highlands East



Angela Balle, representing Haliburton County, and Miles Roberts, part of the County of Haliburton's Barrier Aware Assessment Team, presented the Municipality of Highlands East with Awards of Excellence for being barrier free in a number of their buildings. The awards were accepted by Reeve Dave Burton and Deputy Reeve Jim Mackie. All of the municipalities in the County were challenged to meet standards of excellence during last year's Municipal Day.

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



Liz Daniels
Staff Reporter

Highlands East in Review

The summer months were busy times for the Highlands East Council. During July they chose a new flag, with a wolf motif, designed by Jennifer Covert, Grade 8 student from the Cardiff Elementary School. During a delegation, Council also received a number of recommendations from Grade 8 students in Cardiff, promoting safety, physical activity and increased accessibility in their community.

After a comprehensive review, Council adopted a number of amendments to their zoning by-law. They also approved the use of municipal roads by a group called Storm Racing, to facilitate an off-road triathlon.

During the month there was quite an outcry on the handling (or mishandling) of feral cats by by-law control representatives. Concerns about feral cats and how to handle them continued to escalate over the summer. One resident, who had reached the end of his tether, voiced his concerns both to Council and in a letter to the Editor about feral cats and the impact they had on his home. There was nothing warm and fuzzy about this cat story.

Fears were voiced loud and clear in the community about extremely high levels of uranium being found in well water, with one family experiencing serious illness. Residents were urged by FUME to test their water.

Last, but not least, during July Council welcomed their MP Barry Devolin, MPPs Laurie Scott & Jeff Leal along with Warden Eleanor Harrison and over 60 residents to celebrate the grand opening of the Dillman and Hadlington Bridges.

During August home builders and contractors came head to head with Council over disputes with the newly appointed Chief Building Official. A number of meetings were held throughout the summer and fall, with Council finally bringing in additional staff for their building department resulting in an uneasy truce with contractors.

Despite moves by other municipalities to install various bear wise deterrents, Council determined that there was further risk to residents with electric fencing surrounding the landfills, causing bears to roam into residential areas.

The Kidd Schoolhouse Museum received a \$15,000 grant which would go a long way in assisting their goal to preserve the history of early pioneer families in the area.

In September after careful consideration Council passed a resolution endorsing the Three Modest Proposals developed by the Coalition for Balanced Mining Act Reform and petitioned the Government of Ontario to adopt those same proposals.

During October Council considered a policy on the use of video surveillance equipment in their buildings or at facilities like the landfills. The goal was to deter incidents of vandalism and theft.

Council also considered a request to purchase a portion of a right-of-way in Cardiff. Council agreed to look at the pathway system as a whole and consider how selling portions of unused rights-of-way could affect long term development of the community.

During October, November and December, two very controversial decisions made by Council raised the ire of residents and took top billing for Council's attention for a number of meetings. The first decision was to re-open a section of Dark Lake Road that had been closed for a number of years. Several delegations were made to Council by residents living in the area and a petition submitted, but

Council remained firm (albeit by a split vote) in their decision to re-open the road.

The second decision was to terminate an agreement with the Haliburton Family Medical Centre for the use of the medical centre in Wilberforce (owned by the municipality). Residents were furious with this decision, and Council, after listening to a large delegation and receiving another petition, considered all of the ramifications and retracted the resolution. Fallout from their initial decision resulted in the medical team being unavailable to residents during November and December.

Complaints about feral cats continued to plague Council throughout the fall and they considered several different approaches, including the trap, neuter and release program without reaching any solid conclusion. Council was advised that the municipality would no longer have access to the Faraday animal shelter to impound cats. Efforts by both Highlands East and Minden Hills to encourage County Council to bear some of the burden for a county-wide animal shelter were unsuccessful. The two municipalities are exploring the possibility of a shared facility.

Residents in Highlands East concerned about uranium mining and exploration (and not having the mineral rights to their properties) as well as the impact to the value of their properties, continued to wait for the results of the province's comprehensive review of the antiquated Mining Act.

By December, serious consideration was being given to the 2009 budget and department heads were meeting with Council to iron out priority costs for the upcoming year. At their last meeting of the year, Council welcomed visitors and staff to partake in a sumptuous Christmas luncheon and raised a toast to staff for their hard work and dedication. ■

"Fears were voiced loud and clear in the community about extremely high levels of uranium being found in well water, with one family experiencing serious illness."



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Bell Aliant/County of Haliburton – 2009 Broadband Deployment

Simon Chapelle, Associate Director of Business Development, Bell Aliant

Creative Economy in Eastern Ontario – Dan Taylor, Economic Development Officer Prince Edward County

Kawartha Skilled Trades Initiative – Dan Borowec, Director of Economic Development for Northumberland County

E Health Systems – Paul Rosebush CEO/President and Marg Risk Chair of

Haliburton Highlands Health Services Corporation (HHSC)

Could Haliburton County become the hub for Environmental Initiatives – John Patterson

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Haliburton County in Review

Haliburton County Council started 2008 with a proposal from the Library Board to close four out of the eight community libraries. This proposal was not well met by residents in any of the municipalities, who showed their tenaciousness and desire to hold on tightly to their traditions. The Board decided to take their plan back to the drawing board for further consideration.

Family day was a new beginning for everyone in the County. Most residents welcomed the new holiday during February, but businesses were left scratching their heads trying to determine rules for closure, paid holidays, overtime and how to handle lost revenue during a very slow economic period.

March brought Earth Day and a challenge to all municipalities to switch off their lights for an hour on a Saturday night, while maintaining safety, service and facilities open as usual.

March was also a month when the County's new film policy made the rounds through the four municipalities. The policy became far more controversial than anyone anticipated with several municipalities wrangling with the County over responsibility, the perception that it established another level of bureaucracy and that it was somewhat prohibitive. The policy required several revisions before being deemed acceptable.

As with most of the municipalities, April was a very busy month for the County. Council applied for (and were later successful in receiving) funding from HCDC to standardize signs at all of the municipal landfills throughout the County. The signs were intended to detail hours of operation, what would be accepted at each site and associated fees. Tongue in cheek comments were heard that they were about to become the first County to have colour coordinated landfills in the Province. Staff was also directed to investigate providing a shredder for use at all of the landfills on a cost sharing basis.

Agreeing that the County was getting a name for sign pollution, the Council placed restrictions on any new real estate billboards along county roads. The exception to this decision was to make a request to MTO for new boundary signs to aid travelling visitors.

Despite ever increasing costs to travel and no raise in travel allowances since 2006, Council refused to consider increasing staff (and Council) mileage rates for the year. This may, in part, be due to the request being made after the budget had been approved. (Note that the County's overall budget for 2008 was approved at a whopping \$10,096,000.)

County Council also approved the production of a new County Atlas in April. Production of the atlas moved from in-house production, which had not proved to be cost effective, to a public tender process.

Blackberries were purchased and distributed to all County Department Heads as well as several other coordinators who travel extensively. The purchase, while considered a cost effective method of communication, was not included in the budget and created a bit of controversy before being approved by all but one member of Council, who continued to stand firm in his convictions that it was an unnecessary extravagance.

April was also the month when municipal Councils received news of their infrastructure funding applications. County Council (requesting \$1.8 million dollars towards County Road 21 repairs), along with Algonquin Highlands (\$1.1 million dollars for the Buckside Bridge) and Highlands East (\$450,000 to improve the Huston/McGillivray Road intersection) were unsuccessful in their applications. However, Dysart received \$1.3 million dollars towards their new library and Minden Hills received just over \$494,000 towards improving the Lutterworth Pines drinking water system.

During May County Council and their staff faced one of the most difficult challenges during 2008; the possibility of a strike or lockout due to a failure in labour relations. Accusations of strong armed tactics on the part of union negotiators and an unwillingness to negotiate fairly on the part of Council rang strong until almost the final hour when employees agreed, albeit begrudgingly, not to withdraw their services.

Finally, midway through the year, Council was still anxiously awaiting a response to their bid to host the Ontario Summer Games in 2010. A great deal of effort was put into this initiative by Council, staff and hard working volunteers and a successful site visit by the Games selection committee left everyone involved feeling quite hopeful but news came later that the bid had not been successful.

More restrictions were placed on billboards and sandwich board signs in efforts to move one step closer to clearing up sign pollution. Someone was mysteriously doing their own part to reduce signage by stealing 911 signs from a number of locations.

During July the County Library Board formally reversed their decision to close half of the libraries. The Board Chair reported that further recommendations would be made in the fall of 2010 after allowing time to monitor the success/impact of the new libraries in Dysart and Minden Hills.

News that the Federal and Provincial Governments would be injecting \$6.2 billion dollars into Ontario's lagging economy caused all of the Councils to sharpen their pens in anticipation of applying for new infrastructure projects.

In efforts to fill connectivity gaps, Council agreed to submit an application for \$3 Million dollars under the Rural Connections Broadband Program in partnership with Bell Aliant.

Premier McGuinty announced that the province would be investing an additional \$1.1 billion dollars in

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



municipal infrastructure across Ontario. Of this, Haliburton County would receive over \$1.5 million dollars to continue with improvements to roads, bridges and other municipal projects.

In support of species at risk and responding to a request made on behalf of Kids for Turtles, County Council supported the installation of Turtle Crossing signs at strategic points throughout the County.

In September, Council authorized an early review of their Official Plan. This was done in response to the province's 'top down' approach and will provide an opportunity to address a number of provincial initiatives prior to each of the municipalities proceeding with their own OP reviews.

Council adopted a Comprehensive Accessibility Plan which moved them one step closer to meeting legislated requirements to be barrier free by January of 2010.

Council was presented with the completed Cycling Master Plan for Haliburton County. This plan was also presented to each of the municipalities during the month.

Warden Harrison officially opened the County's Business Resource Centre in recognition of Small Business Week.

During October Council held a visioning session. As many as 80 creative and energetic stakeholders worked together on a draft vision statement and detailed the County's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

Council also made a five year commitment in support of the Haliburton Fish Hatchery. The overall commitment of \$100,000 will be paid out at \$20,000 a year and was done in the hope that MNR would match or top the contribution in operating funds for the same period.

County agreed to investigate hosting the 2011 Ontario Senior Games - Winterfest.

Agreeing that social assistance benefit programs should not be funded through property taxes, the McGuinty government and the Association of Municipalities of Ontario reached an agreement that would upload all social assistance benefits and court security costs from municipalities. A consensus report was released detailing how this agreement should reduce cost pressures for both municipalities and property taxpayers starting in 2009.

Hopes that an episode of the Dimestore Fisherman would be filmed in Minden Hills were dashed in November unless private sector support can be found. Council denied the request by Minden Hills to support the film as it was not a county wide promotion.

Concerns were raised by the Haliburton Tourism Board that tourism in the County is suffering and that customer service practices are sadly in need of improvement.

During December County Council agreed to purchase cutting edge web-based meeting management technology. Once established Council, staff and the public will have ready internet access to agendas, minutes and all associated County documentation.

On December 15th Highlands East Reeve Dave Burton was officially acclaimed Warden for Haliburton County for 2009. The next day Council reviewed their budget for the following year and agreed that they would accept nothing less than a zero percent increase to their tax rates, hopefully setting the bar for the municipalities to follow.

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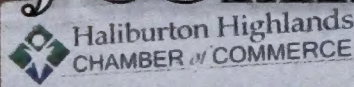
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CHAMBER NEWS

What is new at the Chamber?

The Board of Directors are very excited about the new year!

Executive Board

Nick Lawrence-President, Walter Schretter-Vice President,
Audrey Beck-Treasurer & Paul Gonyea-Past President.

Directors: Andy Campbell, Brad Duckworth, Susan Danilko, Julie Klochoff

New to the team is Maria Micallef as the Administrative Coordinator. Maria has been part of the Chamber for many years as not only a Member, but also as a Board Member of the Sales and Marketing Committee. She brings over 9 years of experience in management, sales and marketing in the hospitality industry. She brings to the Chamber strong skills in customer service, management and administration. She thrives on a challenge and is driven to succeed.

WE WANT TO HEAR WHAT OUR MEMBERS HAVE TO SAY

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Member Spotlight

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Committees

We are looking for enthusiastic individuals to volunteer on the Gala & Membership Committees.

Workshops

Thurs. Feb. 19 at 6 p.m.
BMO is hosting a seminar on individual Pension Plans, Health & Wealth Plans and R.C.A.
Guest Speaker, Trevor Parry-Executive VP of Gordon B. Lang.
Please RSVP to BMO at 457-1587.

Upcoming Events

**The 2008 Annual Awards Gala on Sat. March 21st
At the Delta Pinestone Resort**

To celebrate and honor the achievements and contributions of people who live and work in Haliburton County. So mark your calendars now! This years awards: Business Achievement Awards: Business of the Year, Not-for-Profit Business of the Year, Customer Service of the Year and Young Entrepreneur of the Year.

Community Achievement Awards: Highlander of the Year, Youth of the Year and Award of the Year

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Watercolours Hearing Delayed

Liz Daniels
Staff Reporter

Expectations that the hearing on the Watercolours Condominium would be concluded last week were quickly dashed shortly after the hearing got underway last Thursday. Within several hours of the commencement of the Ontario Municipal Board (OMB or the Board) hearing, it was evident to everyone in attendance that finalizing the matter of who would be allowed party and participant status and agreeing on the mechanics of the hearing had taken the forefront and it would be impossible to complete the hearing within the time allotted.

Two days were scheduled for the hearing for the Board to consider changes to Dysart's zoning by-law that would facilitate the development of Watercolours, the impacts the changes could have on the community and whether they are consistent with Dysart's Official Plan. The hearing got underway at 11:00 a.m. and by 4:00 p.m. was officially adjourned to March 3rd.

The hearing was chaired by OMB Board Member and adjudicator Mr. C. Hefferon. In addition to the official parties to the hearing and their lawyers, about 30 people were in attendance including members of the Dysart Council and the public.

Introductions were made and proceedings got under way with Eric Gillespie, the lawyer for Alison Mack (appellant to the by-law) and Haliburton Condo Concern (HCC), a group of likewise concerned citizens working with Mack on the appeal. Gillespie requested that HCC be added as a party to the proceedings and that the group also be recognized as a second appellant.

Michael Barnes, whose home on Sunnyside Street is adjacent to the land where the proposed condominium will be constructed, requested participant status. He offered a written statement and presented a panoramic photo display of the area.

Hefferon advised the public that the hearing had been set for two days to allow sufficient opportunity for the public to speak. He said he would welcome hearing from other members in the community or receive written comments on the matter. Hefferon then asked if there was any objection to the requests for party and participant status.

While allowing Barnes participant status seemed to be accepted by all, the request to grant HCC party status met with stiff opposition from Mr. A. R. Patton, lawyer for the developer Watercolours of Haliburton Ltd., and the municipal lawyer Edward Veldboom. Extensive arguments were heard from all three lawyers on the matter of status. Frustration on the part of all the lawyers became obvious over time, but Patton's tactics often bordered on the acrimonious.

During his arguments Gillespie provided an explanation for party versus participant status, the two entities that can come before the Board. According to Gillespie, by allowing party status for HCC, the group would be allowed the right to call witnesses, bring motions forward, make formal submissions to the board, cross examine witnesses and have the right to seek adverse costs. On the other hand, participant status which was requested by Barnes, is more limited but allows an individual or group to address the Board.

Gillespie advised that, in accordance with the rules set out for someone seeking party status, all but one of the HCC members (consisting of Alison Mack, Stephen and Mieke Foster, Gord Abel, Ed Lehman and Margaret Dobrzensky) had made oral submissions during the public meeting in July and two had made

written submissions. In addition all members own property in Dysart, two of them within 120 metres of the proposed development. According to Gillespie, HCC had also hired expert witnesses, an official planner and a transportation engineer.

Gillespie also said that in many cases the Municipality represents the interests of residents, but in this case Dysart et al stands in opposition to the appeal and would not be able to represent the interests of HCC; this then being another argument to allow them party status.



Gillespie cited a number of cases that formed the basis of his argument. He also provided evidence of HCC being incorporated on October 31st, with Stephen Foster named as First Director and all other members being shareholders. Both Patton and Veldboom argued the rationale for establishing the corporation and suggested it had been done to avoid costs should they, for any reason, be awarded by the Board. This caused considerable and mixed reaction from those in attendance.

It should be noted that the award of costs as a result of an OMB hearing is rare, but there are allowances should an appeal be considered unreasonable, frivolous or the party making the appeal is deemed to have acted in bad faith.

Patton argued that the members of HCC had ample opportunity to submit individual appeals to the zoning by-law prior to the deadline, or to incorporate prior to the appeal being submitted. He also argued none of the members had signed the appeal submitted by Mack, even though their concerns were mentioned within its body. Patton also pointed out that Foster, when filing for incorporation had listed an address in Toronto.

Patton submitted arguments on the process used to file documents rather than submitting motions in accordance with the Board's rules and procedures. He also argued that the Board would be setting a dangerous precedent by allowing HCC party status and that Gillespie's arguments were sorely lacking.

Veldboom agreed that there was no useful purpose to granting party status to HCC, adding that Mack was more than capable to be the sole appellant. Veldboom also questioned the rationale for HCC's incorporation.

After two hours of intense arguments, Hefferon called for a break to allow him time to reflect on the submissions he had heard.

When he returned he disallowed the request. He said, "There have been enough red flags raised to question the reasonableness of the request." Hefferon also said that he wanted to avoid any opportunity for the courts to challenge his decision, and that he felt there was sufficient material on hand for him to arrive at a reasonable and just decision. He said that expert witnesses were obliged under oath to give their best testimony and that he would rely on that, along with the comments from other people who asked to speak, to make his judgement.

Upon Hefferon's call for the first witness Gillespie made arguments for an adjournment, given the time required to sort out the order of evidence, including witnesses, being presented. It was apparent that both Patton and Gillespie felt they should proceed first. He also pointed out that it would not be beneficial to split

the evidence between two sittings of the Board, should they be unable to complete their arguments within the two day period.

Patton (and Veldboom) reluctantly agreed that time could be a problem depending on the order of witnesses. He asked for terms should the hearing be adjourned including setting the hearing date as early as possible, that the appellant provide a list of witnesses and witness statements and that they agree on a series of critical dates. He reminded everyone that the developer could not enter into any sales agreements until the hearing process is completed and suggested that the level of interest and demand for the development was further reason to schedule hearing dates as soon as possible.

Veldboom agreed with the conditions and commented that a delay would also provide an opportunity for the Municipality to review the draft by-law provided as an alternative to the one passed by Council. This draft document was provided by HCC and created by their planner, Rick Hunter of Planscape.

An agreement was reached by all parties on the dates for meetings of the planning and transportation specialists, and for the exchange of information and replies. Hearing dates were set for March 3rd to 6th in the Dysart Council Chambers.

When asked later how she felt about HCC being disallowed party status, Mack said, "The decision didn't change anything for me as I would still have been an appellant on my own. We were prepared for that possibility and we're prepared to move forward. I haven't been the only one to see this development as an issue. Some of us have been willing to put our names on the line, but there are others in the background working with us."

"Our goal is to find a way for the project to become part of the framework that already exists in the community; to be part of us rather than apart from us. I believe that this is so important and worth pursuing, which is why we are contributing our experts, at our own expense, to the January meetings which are meant to resolve the outstanding traffic and by-law issues."

Gillespie later commented, "Whether HCC was accepted as a party or not makes no practical difference to the way in which the hearing will be conducted. The same witnesses will be called irrespective of who they are called by."

There is no doubt that all parties involved seek resolution to this matter and we will provide details as they become available.

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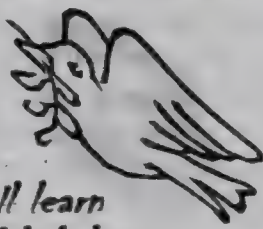


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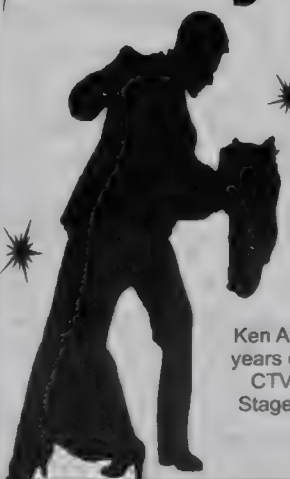
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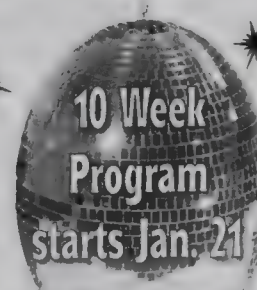
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Hundreds Attend Fur Harvesters Workshop

Trappers Bring Their Catches to Minden Community Centre

Mark Arike
Staff Reporter

Every year, the Fur Harvesters Auction in North Bay generates about \$14 million in sales through the four auctions they hold. And according to James Gibb, Director of Public Relations for Fur Harvesters Auction Inc., trappers from this area are big contributors to the fur business.

This past Sunday, many of these trappers attended the annual Minden District Fur Harvesters Workshop held at the Minden Community Centre. Featured attractions at the event included fur demonstrations, raffles and exhibits. Taxidermists, trap supply companies and dog and feed supply companies were also on-hand.

The event is a major undertaking for the Minden Fur Harvesters, a non-profit organization that covers areas from Bancroft and Minden to Seabright.

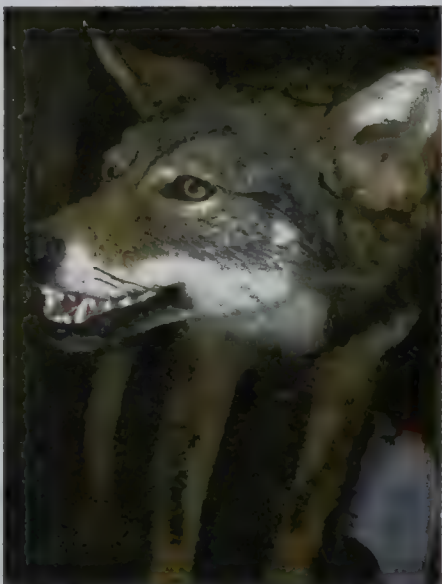
Doug Morgan, Vice President of the organization, says that about 300 people make their way to the event annually.

"This event is geared towards keeping the trappers informed with the current rules and regulations," explained Morgan. "It also provides them with a forum to come together and show their skills."

Trappers also had the chance to show-off pelts of animals such as beaver, fisher, muskrat, mink and coyote. The pelts were judged later on in the day and cash prizes were awarded to the top quality furs.



Heather and Tyler Gibb with their dad James Gibb, Director of Public Relations for Fur Harvesters Auction Inc., hold up Lynx and Wolverine furs.



A coyote on display at a taxidermist booth.

"They prepared the furs at home and brought them in," said Morgan.

The furs are given to Fur Harvesters Auction Inc., the only trapper-owned auction in North America, for future auctions.

"Buyers from all over the world go and bid on the furs," said Morgan. The mission statement of Fur Harvesters Inc. is to "promote and enhance Canada's oldest land based industry and offer the best possible service and fur products for the benefit of all."

The auction house in North Bay receives an 11 per cent commission from all sales, with the remainder going to the trapper.

"We've been auctioning fur for about 30 years," said Gibb, who added that a lot of beaver, fisher, red fox and raccoon come from this particular area of Ontario.

To be a trapper in Ontario, a person must be licensed through the Ontario Fur Managers Association. Persons applying for their first trapping licence, or those who have not held a trapping licence the past five years, are required to complete the Fur Harvest, Fur Management and Conservation Course. These courses are given by Ministry licensed instructors, and students are required to purchase the Fur Harvest, Fur Management and Conservation Course manual.

Following the course, each student is subjected to a written and practical field examination.



Apsley trapper Glenn Bolton skinning and stretching a beaver hide.

Trappers are required to apply for a zone to trap on or receive permission to go on private land.

"You just can't go trapping anywhere and there are seasons for each different type of animal," said Morgan. Trappers also must report how many animals and what kinds they have trapped over the year to the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR).

Those interested in trapping should contact the MNR office in Minden at 705 286-1521. ■

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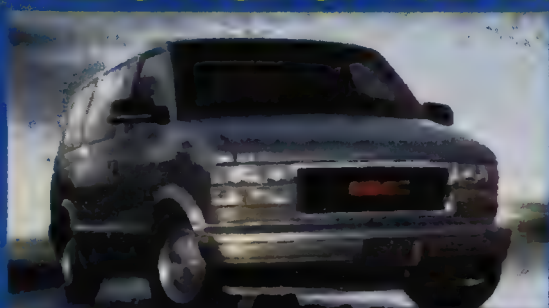
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Rotary Initiative Brings Blues to the Schools

Guitarist Rick Fines Conducts Classes at JDH and Hal High

Terrence Gavan

Staff Reporter

The names, the style, the history, and the passion of 12-bar delta blues literally leaks from the fingers of Rick Fines as he demonstrates a basic blues lick in the brightly lit music room at Haliburton High School.

There are 22 guitar-wielding students (and one very engrossed teacher, Tom Regma) in the Hal High music room, all eyes watching those shulhent fingers dancing on Fines's free-flowing and finicky fretted freeway. Fines plays a lick and 22 guitars answer back like a bluesy Deliverance delta duel.

It's compelling and it's surely a time-honored tradition, this question and answer technique of teaching blues guitar. It hearkens the Crossroads at midnight.

And Rick Fines is clearly in his element sitting at the front of the class, slowly demonstrating the hinged component that seethes and melds this music to that Darwinian-generated genre.

Oh yeah, creationists may tell you that rock n' roll just appeared, magically whipped-up in seven days and nights from the musical vacuum of Elvis's gyrated nether regions, but useful technicians and Mississippi Delta researchers will remind that it all boiled hosiery from the blues.

From the flat topped Gibson U-1 of Robert Johnson, from a deal consummated with the devil in the Crossroads at midnight came a sound that predated rock n' roll, a seminal rumble that would finally make even the most dedicated of rock creationists hear witness and weep. Evolution dear sisters and brothers. Undeniable. Amen.

From the bosom of blues came rock n' roll, borne from the frustration of the plantation, civil strife, inequality and that all-encompassing Jim Crowe status quo. From the abyss of black misery it evolved into a movement that spanned racial lines as Seeger, Dylan, Baez, John, Paul, Mick, and Neil tuned those 12-bars and simple chords to movement.

The noted US music critic Greil Marcus wrote of Johnson in his 1975 book, *Mystery Train*. "Johnson's vision was of a world without salvation, redemption or rest ... Johnson's music is so strong that in certain moods it can make you feel that he is giving you more than you could have bargained for, that there is a place for you in those lines of his."

It ain't called the blues for nothin' folks. The music bleeds, but also offers solace, healing and joy. The lovely paradox of the blues lies in its capacity to infuse redemption into the harsh reality of circumstance. Or as Rene Descartes might have opined: "I play therefore I am." Existential redux.



"Andy called me and asked if this [forming Fines in] might be a good idea and I just thought it was a great one. I like to thank the Haliburton Rotary for suggesting it," says Regma. His music class consists of 22 guitarists and Regma said that the two-day workshop was a great addition to the curriculum. Regma says that because of the success of this two-day workshop, the program may be continued into next year and beyond. For a syllabus that relies heavily on the kindness of strangers to support extra-curricular events, this generous infusion of Rotary funding is appreciated by the teachers and the students involved.

Fines is no stranger to the classroom. For the past several summers he has been conducting weeklong courses in finger style guitar at the Haliburton School of the Arts. He's been offering weekend workshops at Fleming College for slide guitar and basic finger techniques in the fall and winter months.

He also teaches blues guitar at Kincardine Summer Music Festival in Ontario and Horntown Island Blues Workshop in British Columbia. He has worked with children as part of the Blues In The Schools programs in Ottawa, Saskatoon, Toronto and Fredericton.

Rick Fines is in his mid-forties and already a veteran of the folk and blues circuits in North America. In October 2007, Rick he took first place in the annual Sweetgum Bottom Acoustic Blues Competition. His song "Ricky Wants His Life Back" won first place in the blues category of 2005 International Songwriting Competition. Fines says it was a career highlight.

Rick Fines mentioned Robert Johnson in word and riff in the course of his two 70-minute blues workshops at HHSS last Monday and Tuesday. (He also gave similar workshops at JD Hodgson middle school on both days.) He hearkened BB King, Mississippi John Hurt, T-Bone Walker, and the Reverend Gary Davis. He didn't preach to these young students. But he parlayed the message. It was there in the subtle nuance of the feet tapping and the driving thumb.

puling BB or Johnson or Hurt from that air.

Tunes melded musically with a little bit of history in the Classroom.

Rick Fines is a musician, troubadour, raconteur and teacher. He was here in Haliburton last week courtesy of a local Rotary Club initiative bring musicians into the schools.

Regma, the aforementioned engrossed teacher-turned-student on this day, says that it's a wonderful idea. The Rotary Club of Haliburton was represented by member — and guitar picker — Andy Salvatori who accompanied Fines to the class last Tuesday.

because B.B. King was one of the judges.

He won the MapleBlues Award for Songwriter of the Year Acoustic Act (Of The Year twice (98, 99), and has received eight additional nominations. His work with Jackson Delta (for 15 years) brought nominations from both the Juno and the Handy Awards.

Many local music aficionados know him for his collaboration with singer Suzie Vinnick, and from his many local concerts.

Fines likes teaching. That's obvious. It's there in the way the smiles at the fulsome refrains of those 22 guitars coming back at him with a basic blues riff.

"Yesterday I was quite impressed with the way you were able to follow through," smiles Fines. He takes some time to roll through the history, the evolution of 12-bar blues. He delivers the message with an understated common touch.

He is sitting in a chair at the front of the class and he begins with a thumb on the top string, and continues that one note, melding that lone E with a sudden tapping of both feet.

The note continues as he talks and he urges his students to tap not one but both feet. "By tapping both feet you get both sides of the brain involved," smiles Fines. A small thing? Maybe. But try it a none.

"The beat is the boss in blues," says Fines, continuing that single pulsing thumb on E. "A hand that's just okay, but keeps the beat is better than a hand of great musicians that can't," smiles Fines.

"Don't practice fast. A scale player has a just a scale ... played fast," says Fines. There is an urgency in his voice as he breaks down the essence of the blues. Beats and not feet of 22 guitarists are keeping time with the haunting mantra of a basic E string driving a classroom now enveloped with that boss beat.

BB King and Robert Johnson, says Fines, found a different way to play some basic notes, not by complicating, but by simplifying. The best blues artists are beholden to the basics and driven by the beat.

Basic blues are entrenched in dialogue. "Here's a question," smiles Fines, humming a riff. "Now, here's the answer." He nods, eyes half-closed, painting a basic turnaround on the finger-worn frets, hearing the answer.

"Dig in and find different ways of playing a down note," says Fines. "The best time is when we wake up and get out of bed," says Fines. He says that later in the day we all succumb to the expectations of our daily grind. So Rick Fines says he likes to play early in the morning.

"When you first wake up, you could be anybody."

Well, maybe not Robert Johnson.

Rick Fines will tell you that you don't have to sell your soul to play the blues.

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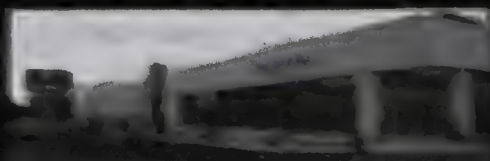


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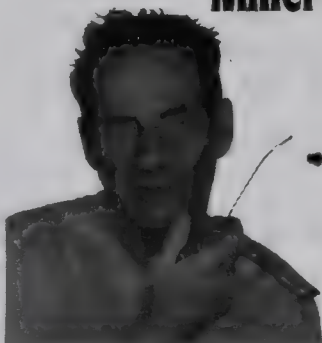
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Miller Donnelly's Magic Helmet - A Few Words to the Wise Young Sudbury Hockey Player Calls Out Arena Brats



Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

Miller Donnelly dropped a puck at an Ottawa 67s home game last weekend (Jan 10).

Later that same day he was invited as a special guest to

watch the Ottawa Senators versus the Rangers at Scotiabank Place in Kanata.

Miller Donnelly is only 11, but wise beyond his years.

A few years ago Donnelly wrote a speech. Nothing special. It was a school project.

He was nine.

It was a public speaking gig penned and delivered for an elementary school contest at Larchwood Public in the Sudbury School Division.

Miller won the school contest and went on to deliver the speech at a regional competition at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 503. Miller's dad, Mike Donnelly, recorded his son's speech and uploaded it on YouTube for family members in Halifax.

Over 30,000 hits and two years later, Miller Donnelly's Magic Helmet mantra is being adopted as a theme by minor hockey in Ontario. It may go viral and achieve national prominence if more hockey honchos on this lamentably traditional and entrenched minor hockey dais would take the time to ingest the message.

You see, young Miller is convinced that his hockey helmet comes with incredibly potent powers. Powers that might impress a David Blaine or a Copperfield.

"How is this hockey helmet magical?" asks Miller at the start of the video. "Well, it does something simply amazing. It changes me from a 9-year-old boy to a 20-year-old man. The minute I put on my magic helmet and step on the ice, adults treat me much differently. They yell at me, they curse at me, and they call me names. They treat me like I've been playing hockey for 15 years and get mad when I make a mistake, and I know it's the helmet because when I go to a backyard rink and I'm wearing a toque adults treat me much nicer."

Sound familiar?

When I was living in Ottawa, a long, long time ago, I used to spend time at hockey arenas. Sometimes I would be refing a basketball tournament at a local high school.

Tired of the stuffy gym, I would wander or drive over to a nearby arena. I noticed a disturbing trend. At house league games or tournaments, I was met by a devoted cognoscente of parents who sat in the stands and berated opposing players and literally screamed at their own children.

I was quite frankly shocked. The level of intolerance and the rudeness of the spectators was something that I just never encountered at any level while refing basketball for 20 years in the Ottawa area.

I found basketball parents to be laid back, affable and for the most part respectful of the game and the players. There was a different atmosphere in the hockey arena. Tense faces, spat epithets and a general level of complete and utter disrespect for the young

players who were only there, after all, to please. To appease their coaches, to help their teammates and to earn the respect of their parents. This is what kids want from sports. Fun.

Instead, young players were met with approbation and an alarming level of vitriol. Eight-year-olds enduring the slings and arrows of raised expectations. How many of these kids were destined for the NHL? Exactly none. So what's the fuss? I have no idea. I know one thing. The players just didn't seem to be enjoying the game.

Fun simply wasn't happening in Ottawa in the 70s. It ain't happening today. I took in a few games at the Silver Stick tournament in Haliburton recently. The same knot in my stomach. The same old wheel. The same level of intolerance bubbling fitfully and in jerks from the stands. Like a locomotive leaving the freight yards, these games accompanied by much din, scraping and the harsh grate of rusty wheels. It all hearkened seedy memories.

I quit going to rinks after an especially disappointing run-in with the surly denizens of a Bells Corner's Arena on a Saturday afternoon in 1975, while taking a break from a basketball tourney at Bell High School. I heard 10 parents screaming at their children. I saw fear and confusion on the face of two young hockey players. I saw another 8-year-old player retreat to the end of the bench literally drenched in his own tears. I heard his dad yell, "Quit crying ... Baby! ... be a man!" I swear to god, I wanted to saunter over and hit that dreadful, dreadful man. I felt my face reddening. My stomach rolled to a tight knot. I fled, ran to my car, and then back to the gym.

I never returned to an arena on a Saturday morning.

As an adult I was embarrassed. And confused.

A little like Miller Donnelly.

Miller at least had the guts to confront the problem. At nine years old, he asked some poignant questions. He told a compelling story that is just now getting the recognition that it deserves. It's making the rounds and it's being promoted on some Ontario hockey websites. Miller's measured tones seeking resonance from the hoards. Those parents and coaches who would seek to insert the pressure of their own griping lives onto the children.

Don't they realize? Do they need a class? Is there psychotherapy available for the broken psyches of those hockey moms and dads who just don't seem to get it?

Ask Miller. He's seen it all, and remember he was only nine when he delved into this Canadian psychosis.

"Many young players are scared of the magic helmet, the yelling that it brings makes them frightened and confused while playing the game," says Miller. "And most of the times the adults that are yelling are the player's own parents."

Near the end of the speech Miller hearkened a heavy hitter and former Maple Leafs' captain.

"George Armstrong said it best when he suggested, 'Hockey in Canada would be in good shape when parents decide it's being played for their children's benefit and not their own.'"

Hail to the Chief.

Is there a solution?

From the mouths of babes and from Miller's lips to god's good ear.

"You can help destroy the bad magic in the helmet. Be a real fan, have fun at the rink, cheer loudly and enjoy the real magic of minor hockey," says Miller.

And while we're talkin'. A little post-game shout out to Miller Donnelly please.

Hip-hip-hooray! ■

Hal High Red Hawks Earn Split at Peterborough Tourney

Hawks Tie Norwood 2-2 in League

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

The Yake brothers - Brandon and Brett - teamed up to propel the Haliburton High Red Hawks to a 2-2 tie with division rival Norwood Knights in high school hockey action last week. (Played last Wednesday Jan 7)

The tie was sealed with a last minute flourish and goal with only 26 seconds remaining in the game. The timely tally keeps the Hawks on a collision course with first place in the overall AA Kawartha zone standings.

Coach Ron Yake said that he and co-coach Gary Brohman were pleased with the overall effort of the club.

"Well, some of the players were still maybe a bit in holiday mode, but they played really well overall," said Yake, whose two sons have been providing a lot of scoring pop for the Hawks this season. "Norwood is a solid club and a well-coached team and they have a few players who move the puck really well, so we were happy to come out of there with a tie."

Last weekend the scenario shifted to Peterborough where the Hawks competed in an annual high school tourney last Friday and Saturday.

The Hawks played three games on Friday, emerging from their round robin pool on the basis of a 2-1 record.

The Hawks beat Oakwood Collegiate 4-0 in their opening game, but dropped a close 2-1 decision to Waterloo Collegiate in their second game.

That set up a winner-take-all tilt against Pickering High School in their third game of the day.

"The way it set up, we needed to beat Pickering by two goals in order to advance in the tourney," said Yake.

He said that the Hawks struggled valiantly throughout the contest but were only up 2-1 heading into the latter stages of the third frame.

"We managed to score two late goals and ended up winning the game 4-1 and that put us through to the next round on Saturday," said Yake. "It was just a huge effort by all of our guys."

He added that Josh Townseend came through with a yeoman effort in that contest, scoring three goals to lead the Red Hawks to the next round. "He played a great game, but overall everyone played really well," added Yake.

That set up a second round game against Malvern Collegiate Institute Black Knights, another Toronto area school.

"We ended up losing that game 1-0," said Yake. "We just couldn't put the puck in the net."

He said that the game's only goal came on a Black Knight shorthanded effort. "Once they got up by that goal they played us very well defensively using a trapping style and we couldn't get a goal," said Yake.

Overall, Yake said that giving up only four goals in those four tournament games bodes well as the Hawks head into the second half of the season.

The team played another road game against Campbellford on Wednesday and will be on hiatus for the next two weeks for exams.

Next home game is slated for February 9th at Dysart Arena. Game time is 7:15 pm. ■

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Haliburton Curling Club Celebrates 50 years of Skyline Spiel

Local Organizers Gear Up for 32 Teams and a Weekend of "Hurry Hard!"

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

Stand in front of the Haliburton Curling Club and look up. If you crane your neck at an awkward enough angle you can just make out the tree-fringed boundary of Skyline Park, located on the vertical edge of Haliburton Village.

If you stood on the outer edges of the lookout at Skyline Park you could probably launch a pebble and hit the top of the curling rink.

But please, please don't try this next weekend. You may hit a curler from one of the 32 rinks involved in the 50th Annual Skyline Bontspiel.

And please, bontspieling being what it is - a time-honored paean to non-stop revelry and fun - participant curlers should be forewarned against a sentimental journey up to the Skyline Lookout after a few postgame pops in the 9th end pub. It's a long way down folks, and should never be attempted on wobbly legs. (Although, any fall from the vicinity of Skyline would probably result in a fortuitous and ironic landing atop the ambulance garage and first responders' headquarters.)

The Skyline Bontspiel, which hosted its first draws way back in 1960 is turning 50 this year and event chairman Wayne Hussey says that it's going to be an extra special affair, replete with a large nod to the pioneers who started granite flying in Haliburton all those long years ago.

And, says Hussey, for all the math wizards out there who deem that the 50th anniversary should actually be next year, the chairman assures all and sundry that it is in fact the 50th spiel and not the 49th. Hussey says that counting on your fingers from 0 to 9 is the best way to solve this little puzzle.

"I know it doesn't sound right, but if you do the math, this is the 50th event, so we're calling it fifty," smiles Hussey. The Skyline Bontspiel runs this coming weekend Jan 16, 17 and 18, with draws running from 8 am to midnight on the Saturday. Hussey says that residents and cottagers are all welcome to come and view the event, adding that there will be about eight local teams involved.

The draws get underway this Friday at 2 pm and they run all through Saturday and Sunday till about 4 pm when all of the trophies and prizes will be awarded.

Of the 32 teams enrolled in the event Hussey says that a large number of rinks are Skyline spiel veterans who have made this spiel a priority on their curling calendar over several decades. "We have a lot of Toronto and Oshawa based teams that have been coming here for years and years," says Hussey.

"Most of the teams are coming from Oshawa, Whitby, Unbride and Toronto," says Hussey. This year, to help mark the historic 50th anniversary, a lot of retired old-timers will also be making the trek to Haliburton as honorary guests.

Curling gladiators in their 70s, 80s and 90s whose bontspieling days are behind them will be on hand to lend some notion of history to the event. He said that there will be sit down dinners on the Saturday at 5 pm and 6:30 pm with the veterans and retired spielers being honored at the second dinner sitting.

As part of the festivities, the club executive reserved a small corner in the upstairs lounge as a makeshift shrine to the first Haliburton curling club building that was erected way back in 1948. There was no artificial ice back then says Hussey who adds that viewing windows were kept clear of frost by strategically placed candles to allow fans to watch the on-ice action.

To honour the memory of the pioneer curlers, the Haliburton curling club executive mandated the construction of a replica of the old curling club entrance, daintily adorned with the black tarpaper and rough wood exterior, and a mock-up of the front door topped with an old-style green metal entrance light.

It's daintily built according to specs drawn from the archived photos. "We wanted to do something special for this event," says Hussey.

Old straw brooms and heavy woolen curling club sweaters will be available for arriving curlers on Friday afternoon. (Draws run at 2, 4, 6 and 8 on Friday.) Hussey says that a photographer will be on hand to snap black and white photos of each curler standing in front of the mock up of the 1946 curling club entrance. "Each curler, dressed in the old sweater and holding a broom, in front of the old curling club will receive a framed black and white photo," says Hussey. Hussey has 130 old-style frames available to hold the memories.

Hussey, a retired resident and Haliburton native son, is steeped in the long tradition of Haliburton curling.

He was raised in Haliburton but moved away to Cornwall with his family in 1966. "But I was back here in 1962 for what I guess was the Third Annual Skyline Bontspiel," laughs Hussey. Fond



Skyline Spiel Chairman Wayne Hussey in front of old curling club replica

memories of curling with his dad. Hussey says he's been attending ever since. "I guess I've been involved in about 40 of them," says Hussey.

He moved up here to a residence after retiring from General Motors in 1992 and he's been the chairman of the Skyline event for the past 15 years. He gives credit to organizing committee partners Peter Byer, Mo Welch and Dave Moss with the continued success of the spiel. He says that the economic downturn has hurt a number of spiels this year, but says that the Skyline Bontspiel is thriving, in part because of the bonhomie generated from years of running a very professional and fun-filled event.

He takes a visitor through the history and archived photos on display at the club with a practiced nonchalance, but there is no hiding the pride as he goes through the names of the old timers who worked diligently to pull timber from the Keness Lake area. Timber that was utilized in the building of the first curling club. The pictures of the men hauling lumber out of snow-steeped woods are on display at the curling club.

Clearly there is a deep and abiding tie to the past even in the newly refurbished upstairs lounge, which boasts a large and unrestricted view of the four sheets of artificially enhanced ice below.

The curling club was actually started back in 1942 when the sweepers and skips had to share time on the arena ice. They tried this for several years, before coming to the realization that hockey skates, scarred ice, brooms and granite do not mix.

That of course led to the construction of the club circa 1948 and the start of that long tradition of Haliburton curling. Nowhere is that tradition better exemplified than here at the Skyline Bontspiel, one of the longest running spiels in Ontario.

Hussey says that along with the vintage pictures, curlers will also be sharing in prizes and trophies in excess of \$2500.

He says that special thanks go out to Haliburton Foodland and Todd's Independent for prizes and support.

Every team is guaranteed at least three eight end games and the A.B.C., and D draw finals will take place beginning at 2 pm on Sunday.

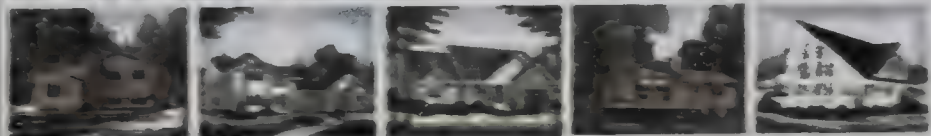
Friday's festivities will also be enhanced by a special draw to the bunt contest with each curler having a shot at the prize following their opening round draws.

He says that there will be lots of room for visitors to come in and get a taste and feel for the Skyline Bontspiel. The bar will be open over the weekend and the cafeteria will also be available for light snacks.

And hey, if you bring a camera, you might even be able to wheedle a photo standing in front of the old Haliburton Curling Club entrance, circa 1948. Bring an old wool sweater and a straw broom.

And remember to set the digital camera settings on black and white.

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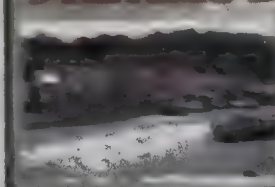
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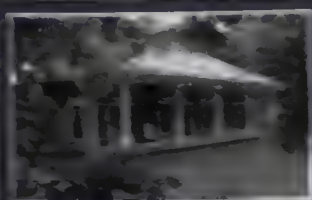
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River Kings Split Two over Christmas Break

Lose to Nipissing and Win Over Ville Marie

Terrance Gavan

Sports Editor

The Minden River Kings dropped a 6-2 decision to the Nipissing Alouettes on the road on Saturday January 3rd, the second loss in a row after a winning streak that extended to five games in a pre-Christmas surge.

Cause for worry?

Nope. Especially not after a solid 8-3 win at home last Sunday, (Jan 11) against the visiting Ville Marie Dragons.

According to Kings head coach Brooks Robinson, a few losses after a five game win streak is part and parcel of rising tides and the seasonal flow.

Robinson attributed the post New Years loss to "too much holiday turkey" adding that the River King players had all taken advantage of the holiday hiatus to head home for Christmas.

"We played Nipissing on the third (Jan 3) and most of the guys didn't get back here until the 2nd and we didn't have a chance to practice before the game on Saturday night."

That said, Robinson is quite aware that the second half of the season will be important in determining placement for the fast-approaching Greater Metro Hockey League playoffs, which get underway in late February. The league's final games occur on Feb 22 and the best-of-five first round series will begin shortly after.

The Kings are in sixth place in the GMHL's Northern Division and would be paired against the league leading 30-3-1 South Muskoka Shield in the first round if they remain glued to that sixth spot.

Forward Evan Beasley and defenseman Calvin Northam scored the only two Minden tallies in the Nipissing game. Robinson said that the overall effort was "sluggish" against the talented Alouettes.

"We started out slow and didn't play with any emotion at all in the first two periods," said Robinson. "But in the third we started to skate and play with some emotion, so we're hoping to carry that to our next game."

Five Minden players traveled to Innisfil on Sunday, Jan

4th where they were inserted into the Lakers' lineup for an exhibition tilt against a visiting Kazakhstan under-18 squad who are here in Canada for a series of exhibition contests against GMHL teams.

Brett Meyers, Lane Schmid, Devin Hunter, Thomas Falardeau, and Jeff Beale all played in that game.

The Innisfil-River King coalition defeated the Kazakhstan team 5-3. "They have a very good team with a lot of great young skaters," said Robinson, who added that all of the Kings players played well in the exhibition tilt.

The win at home moves the Kings record to 12-17-1 on the season and it almost guarantees them a playoff berth in the tough Norther Division.

Briar Hill scored a pair of goals in the win against Ville Marie last Sunday. Devin Hunter notched three assists, while Calvin Northam, Tyler Wright and Mike Dagostino all added a goal and two assists for the Kings. Thomas Falardeau, Lane Schmid and newcomer Zach Joianu all added single tallies. Garret Simmons chipped in with two assists, while Evan Beasley, Jeff Beale and Mike Dagostino all added helpers.

Brett Meyers was held scoreless for the first time in recent memory and is also nursing an injury, which kept him out of last Tuesday's GMHL All-Star Game held in Gravenhurst last Tuesday. Goaltender Andrew Selbie was one of three goalies picked to the all-star squad.

Robinson said that three other Kings were involved in the special skills portion of the event.

Beale was Minden's rep in the fastest skating competition, while Beasley was chosen to represent the Kings in the hardest shot event. Gooderham's Hunter was involved in the shootout portion of the skills competition.

Joianu is a Minden area player who was signed just last week. Robinson said he provides the team with a deft scoring touch and also adds a pretty imposing physical presence.

River Kings next play on the road against Bradford Rattlers on Jan 22nd. ■

Free Barbeque for Local Resident



Sears Holds Draw for Shiny, Kenmore Grill

Although we aren't currently experience ideal climate conditions for cooking outdoors, Murray Leavitt of Wilberforce was still glad to take home a \$400 barbeque he won from the Sears Catalogue Store in Haliburton.

Martin Russell, owner of the store, presented Leavitt with the deluxe Kenmore barbeque last Friday.

Ballots for the draw were available throughout the month of December to whoever entered the store and wanted to fill one out. The draw was held on the afternoon of New Year's Eve.

"It's my way of showing customer appreciation and giving back," said Russell, who purchased and provided the barbeque. Russell says he often gives away products to his customers through draws.

"I usually try to give away something everyone can use," he said. ■

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Hodgson Duchene Dominate Voice Coverage

Minden Gets a New Team and Red Hawks Dominate Gridiron

Matthew Duchene and Cody Hodgson once again dominated the Voice sports headlines as we headed into the final six months of our opening year.

Hodgson was a front-page item on June 26th just after he was drafted 10th overall by the Vancouver Canucks on Friday June 20th in Ottawa.

That would set a remarkable summer of training in motion for the uber-achiever Hodgson who was determined to crunch the Canuck lineup in 2008 and 2009.

I had an opportunity to connect with the Canuck prospect and Haliburton cottager on a few occasions over the summer. He worked out dryland with Battalion teammate Duchene and at Dave Gagner's Power Play Training Center in London, Ontario.

Always, Hodgson was upbeat. He literally lived at the London Power Play Center three or four days a week, working on the state-of-the-art skating treadmill, improving his skating stride in preparation for the training camp appearance in Vancouver and Whistler last fall.

He worked with Edmonton Oiler player Sam Gagner [Dave's son] who actually cracked the Oiler lineup in his first draft eligible year. Dave Gagner was hired on as head of Canuck Player Development this season, so Hodgson was situated in the best of places as he forged ahead with his own personal development under Dave's holistic presence and Sam's quiet inspiration.

It's widely accepted that Hodgson was on the quivering cusp of making the team, but a few player moves and acquisitions last summer and fall may have worked against Hodgson's selection as a third or fourth line center.

One thing is certain. Hodgson's skating, strength and overall conditioning was non-pareil, his preparation single-minded. He eventually signed on with the Canucks for the rookie max but was sent back to the OHL's Brampton Battalion for another year of seasoning. He led all scorers in the recent World Junior Tournament and was selected to the All-Star team. The junior team's gold medal performance said Hodgson, is now the highlight of his career. It likely won't be his last memorable moment.

There are always mountains to climb and milestones to reach in this game called hockey. Hodgson and his Battalion teammates are currently ranked number four in the OHL. A trip to the Memorial Cup is not an off-the-chart prediction. Trust me, Hodgson loved winning gold at the junior tourney, but it's a been-there-done-that scenario for the quick rising prodigy. Next season he would like to be centering the second line for the Vancouver Canucks. And don't bet against him. Tunnel vision is corrected by laser surgery these days, but on the dais of professional sports it is a treasured commodity, like Secretariat's blinders, blurring the detritus of diversion from the furrowed track of achievement.

So Hodgson returned to the Battalion, bowed but never beaten. He was named captain shortly after his return and his presence solidified a solid troop surge that at one point resulted in a record-breaking 16 game winning streak.

The streak propelled Brampton into first place in the Central Division and just behind Belleville for the OHL's Eastern Conference lead. Hodgson and Duchene, training pals in the summer and teammates all year, remain embroiled in a season-long friendly rivalry for the Battalion scoring lead. (Right now Duchene is back on top as the Battalions leading scorer with 20 goals and 30 assists in his 32 games.)

On the flip side of the Haliburton hockey juggernaut, Duchene continued his effervescent march to destiny. In August Duchene received word that he would be team captain for the Under-18 Canadian team traveling to Europe for the annual Memory of Ivan Hlinka tourney. It was there that Duchene won his third gold medal of 2008. (He won earlier golds as a member of the under 17 Ontario squad that won gold last January and the under-18 squad that won it all in Kazan Russia last spring.)

Both Duchene and Hodgson were invited to participate in the junior training camp in December. It's generally accepted that Duchene's age and an untimely shoulder injury played roles in his cut from the roster, but in a recent feature we learned that there is steel in the backbone of this young man from the Highlands.

"Use it as motivation for the second half of the season," Battalion coach and GM Stan Butler told his young protégé. Duchene has done just that, bouncing from that shoulder

Terrance Gavan
Sports Editor

injury and now leading the Troop in scoring.

As reported in the Voice, Duchene is dancing with his own date with destiny. He is draft eligible this year and it was reported just this week that he is now ranked second behind John Tavares in the central scouts poll. Swede Victor Hedman and likely top fiver Jared Cowen are defenseman and where each of these four players go will be determined by team needs. (Although Tavares is the no-brainer first overall pick.) As for Duchene? He's looking at Ottawa Senators' sliding fortunes and smiling, because he told the Voice that he'd like to ply his trade in Canada.

Dovetailing on that hockey theme, we have the Minden River Kings, a Junior A club playing it's first season in that renegade, non-sanctioned Greater Metro Hockey League (GMHL). The league, run and conceived by former Oiler and WHA alum Bob Russell petitioned Minden last spring. The agreement was reached in June and the River Kings participated in its first GMHL draft that same month.

It's not been a smooth transition. The Kings who signed local players Devin Hunter and Tyler Crego along with a number of US and European prospects encountered their share of growing pains. They suffered with a short bench in the first part of the season and their coach Mike Jeschke resigned in November. Since then they have turned it around under the tutelage of former assistant and now head coach Brooks Robinson. They went on a five game tear just before the Christmas break. They finished the year in sixth place, good enough for a playoff berth if they manage to hold off any latent charges from the cellar dwellers. New player acquisitions and some trades have bolstered numbers and Robinson said last month that there are more players on the way.

Nowhere is the spirit of amateur sport more alive than on the cluttered stage of high school sports.

What I learned in Haliburton, my first year on the beat, is that Haliburton High School maintains a solid and varied sports program. When I was Interlake Publishing in Manitoba, I was a sports editor of three papers and we had five high schools in our coverage area. They played nine-man football back then in Manitoba and every school had a superb track team. I was fortunate enough to revisit that once forgotten and fog-ensconced part of my career this year here in Haliburton.

There's only one high school here, but it bubbles like a witch's cauldron. Last spring I was able to follow the fortunes of the Hal High Red Hawk track team. I learned that the HHSS coaching staff, Paul Morissette, Walter Tose and Karen Gervais found a place for everyone on the team. No cuts. An exhilarating concept, a laudable strategy. The team took part in a series of elimination and qualifying meets. The provincial tournament finally crunched to two. Drew Paul and Matt Rae both qualified for the OFSAA provincial track meet. From many to two. But as with any sport, the success of the two held as a beacon for all those 50 plus HHSS athletes who will compete again this year.

Last fall I also got to cover high school football. Again, Red Hawk football teams do not cut players. If you want to come out and practice you earn a spot on the squad. A nice way to do things. Both Red Hawk clubs had stellar seasons before bowing out in the first playoff round. And again, nice to be out on the sidelines in the warm sunlight of a fall day in cottage country, all those leaves signaling a turn in the season.

A poignant Red Hawk story

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



unfolded on another pitch as the Red Hawk girls field hockey team narrowly missed a trip to the OFSAA tourney. It was a memorable run because coach Paul Morissette told a great story of determination and will, and how a team came together. They finished second in the COSSA playdowns losing only after two grueling overtimes and the dreaded penalty shot scenario. This valiant team, arms interlocked, forging ahead with a team-first agenda that Morissette, and the team, will remember for a long, long time.

And it all started again for coaches Ron Yake and Gary Bröhm and their Red Hawk hockey team. The Red Hawks are currently near the top of the ladder in district play and they continue to improve as the season delves into the second semester.

And so we are now full circle, beginning our second year of sports coverage here at the Voice.

Growing pains and shaking trees and the mantra of the local newspaper. Any sports events or features?

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Algonquin Highlands in Review

Liz Danielsén

Staff Reporter

The summer months got off to a rough start in Algonquin Highlands with the swim program on Halls Lake being cancelled due to geese 'fowling' the waters. Subsequent sampling proved that the waters were once again safe, but it was a frustrating few days for swimmers who wanted relief from hot and muggy weather.

During July the Stanhope Heritage Discovery Museum looked postcard perfect for its grand re-opening during Stanhope Heritage Day.

Members of the Kawagama Lake Cottagers Association met with Council seeking greater shoreline controls, something which Council had already considered. Council officially adopted an amended zoning by-law which included allowances for sleeping cabins in some zones, the addition of shoreline buffers and management of permitted non-complying structures. Council also deferred zoning provisions for wind turbines.

In July Council was faced with an extensive advertising campaign about the proposed Stanhope airport expansion. The ads, calling the development 'Runaway Runway,' detailed promises made by Council which had not been kept. It was the beginning of a strong campaign that remained the focus of many residents and would plague Council for the rest of the year.

During August representatives from the Hawk Lake West Road Association approached Council with concerns that access to their homes was blocked from regular and emergency vehicles by increasingly hazardous vehicles parked in the public parking area. Council agreed to meet with MNR to explore the possibility of creating a secondary parking area on Crown Land.

Reeve Harrison reported to Council on a number of lake association meetings that she had attend-

ed. Despite mounting concerns raised at many lake association meetings about the impact that airport development would have on taxes, Harrison said that, other than a few concerns about bears and bridge replacements, the greatest issue facing the municipality was the hours at the landfills.

During August the Maple, Beech and Cameron Lakes Area Property Owners Association held their AGM. At least 120 members attended and the meeting became a bit of a barn burner

THE YEAR IN REVIEW



when it came to airport development. An official request was made for a referendum on the project. There was considerable hue and cry about the expropriation of more than 200 acres of land in the area.

On a lighter note, in September Council received a report that despite unprecedented bad weather and rising gas prices, the Haliburton Highlands Water Trails had seen increased use during the season, with over 1000 more campers than the previous year.

Concerns were raised about the use of Municipal/Crown land access points along the Livingstone, Troutspaw, Wolf and Crown Lakes. Council agreed that staff should step up enforcement activities in those areas and meet with MNR representatives to try to reduce the problems.

In September the much anticipated public meeting about expanding the Stanhope Airport was held. The Dorset Recreation Centre was filled to overflowing with 150 residents wanting to hear a detailed report on the feasibility of building a new runway. Opposition to the project was overwhelming. Accusations of conflict of interest and that Council had a hidden agenda were met with stoic determination by Council to move forward with project planning.

During their meetings in October, Council heard a number of delegations about the airport expansion, both for and against the project. For the first time, Council held an open and candid discussion about the project and whether they should proceed. Repairs to the Buckslide Bridge were considered as an alternative should the final vote on the runway not pass.

Finally on October 23rd, Council passed the resolution to apply for \$3.4 million dollars in Building Canada funds to construct the new runway. The decision was made in a split vote.

At the same meeting, Council and staff celebrated receiving the top grass roots award from the Association of Municipal Recycling Co-ordinators for the establishment of Big Red, the Municipality's custom built receptacle for various hazardous wastes.

After hearing a number of construction options in October, Council passed a resolution in early November to proceed with detailed design and tender documents for the replacement of the Buckslide Dam Bridge. Costs were estimated at \$555,000.

During November Council also lent their support to the Frost Centre Institute to assist in their application for funding to set up a new Environmental College.

Late in November Council met with a large delegation from Oxtongue Lake about their community hall. Residents spoke in earnest about the importance of their hall and after much ado, both parties agreed to work together to resolve any outstanding concerns. Reeve Harrison provided assurances that the building would not be sold.

During the fall concerns were heard at a number of levels about MTO's pending replacement of two bridges in the community of Oxtongue Lake. Residents voiced concerns at a public meeting about the impact on business during a lengthy construction period and both County Council and the Algonquin Highlands Council agreed to keep a close eye on this project and its impact on the community.

After much review and comment from the lake associations, one of Council's last pieces of business for the year was to finally settle on new landfill hours for the upcoming year. ■

The Minden Agricultural Society's General Meeting & Dinner

Saturday, January 17, 2009
5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

at the Minden United Church
on Newcastle Street
\$15.00 per person

Tickets available from Mary at 854-0335



COUNTY OF HALIBURTON RAIL TRAIL MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING

Date: January 22, 2009
Time: 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Location: Haliburton County Office, Minden

The goal of the public meeting is to let the community of Haliburton County Rail Trail users and potential users have a voice in regards to the future of the Rail Trail. Attendees may request to present at the meeting. Presenters will be allotted 5 minutes to speak. Copies of the Rail Trail Master Plan are available at the Trails and Tours Office in Carnarvon, the Haliburton County Office in Minden and online at www.haliburtoncounty.ca

The Haliburton Highlands Trails and Tours Network on behalf of the Haliburton County Rail Trail Management Committee will be accepting letters from those unable to attend the meeting and presentation requests sent "Attn: 5 Year Review" until January 14, 2009. Letters can be sent via:

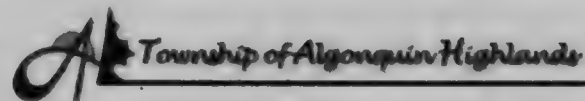
Email: info@trailsandtours.com

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Surplus Equipment for Sale

Sealed bids will be received by the Township Office until 12 noon on Friday January 30th, 2009.

1. 2000 Dodge 4x4 Pick-up
2. 2003 16 ft. aluminum Crestliner boat
3. 2003 Galvanized bunk trailer, 1000 lb. max.
(main beam bent)
4. 2003 Johnson 15hp 4-stroke long shaft motor
(runs - motor mount needs repair)
5. 2006 14ft. aluminum Ultracraft boat (hull damaged)

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Further information is available by contacting:

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Fax: 705-489-3491
Email: bwhetstone@algonquinhighlands.ca

The highest or any bid not necessarily accepted.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

2			9					5
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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging
★★★ HOO BOY!

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PROCLAMATION

ACROSS

- 1 Ladd or Lane
6 Host a roast
11 Kipling novel
14 Social worker?
17 Conductor Dorati
18 In a perfect world
20 Slangy suffix
21 Norm
22 Start of a remark by 117
24 Northwest-ern capital
26 "— Day Now" ('62 hit)
27 Stallion's son
28 Pom's perch
30 — laugh
31 Hound's handle
32 Torah, e.g.
36 '92 US Open champ
37 What you've gotta have
40 Acquire
42 Harden
44 — Romeo
45 Spring holiday
47 Side by side

- 51 Part 2 of remark
55 Lamb product
57 Vane dir.
58 — tzu
59 Boiling
60 West
61 Like — of bricks
62 Austenly
64 Austen hero
66 German mark?
68 Sierra —, CA
70 All wet
74 Terra firma
75 Is useful
77 Author Potok
78 Column style
80 Claim
81 Problem for Pauline
83 Fernando or Lorenzo
85 Rocker
86 Nugent
88 Herriot title start
89 "Odyssey" enforcer
90 End of remark
93 17 Across' title
95 "The — Kid" ('84 film)
97 Orthodox image
98 Pants measurement

- 100 Study
102 Stick one's neck out
103 Sports-caster
105 Classical hunk?
107 Shopper's delight
109 — (lipped off)
110 Shuffle-board stick
111 TV's "— Living"
112 Hum bug?
115 More eminent
117 Speaker of remark
123 Hosp. area
124 Erwin or Gilliam
125 She handed Theseus a line
126 Break off
127 Endorses
128 Cast a spell
129 Trepidation
130 Neighbor of Oman

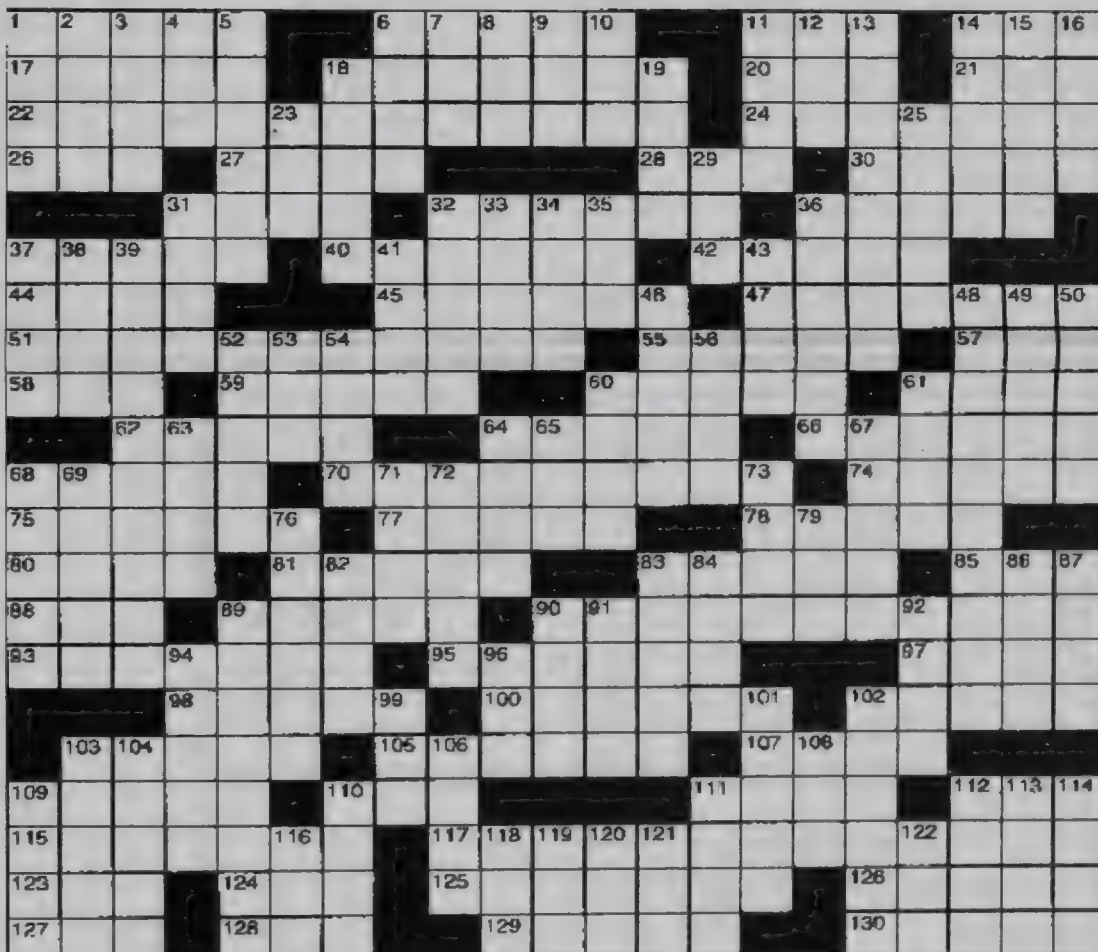
DOWN

- 1 Comic Carvey
2 Privy to
3 Part of DA
4 Uh-uh
5 Draw forth
6 Touch up the text
7 Big boys

- 8 Baseball's Ricken
9 Ransom — Olds
10 Brownie, for one
11 Former surgeon general
12 Unwell
13 Andy's area
14 Tell's target
15 They got hit on their heads
16 Hors d'oeuvre holder
18 Northern hemisphere?
19 Scream
23 Start to snooze
25 Free-for-all
29 "The Greatest"
31 Munich Mrs.
32 Iowa, e.g.
33 "The Man in Black"
34 Formal ceremony
35 Like-minded
36 Forester or Outback
37 Rain hard?
38 Lohengrin's love
39 Priced right
41 Leonine
43 Highflying agoy.

- 46 Show one's feelings
48 Penguins' place
49 Newfoundland's nose
50 Fractional amount
52 Actor Bruce
53 To and —
54 Galley features
56 — terrier
60 Pharmacy measure
61 Jai —
63 Spring flower
64 Twofold
65 Paul's "Exodus" role
67 The Brainy Bunch?
68 Lady of the house
69 Spanish city
71 Farm measure
72 Use one's noodle
73 Tiny coin
76 Elan
79 Lummo
82 Desire defied
83 Yoga position
84 Pub orders
86 North Carolina campus
87 Unit of force

- 89 Plymouth leader
90 Small songbird
91 Mala —
92 Swamp land
94 Like Sauternes
96 Mil. address
99 Sweater letter
101 Cosmetician
102 "Patriot Games" author
103 Thwart a blitz
104 Sewell of "A Knight's Tale"
106 — vu
108 "Do — say, not —"
109 Commercial award
110 Pivotal point
111 Ain't right?
112 Put on a happy face
113 In addition
114 Genesis setting
116 When the French try
118 Significant years
119 — Tin Tin
120 "— Doll" ('64 hit)
121 Fabric amts.
122 Charge



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FOR WEEK OF JAN. 19, 2009

Free Parking No More Green Plastic Bags Come Off Parking Metres



Matthew Aldon, Bylaw Officer for Dysart et al, spent the better part of Monday removing plastic bags off Haliburton's parking metres because it's time to pay to park once again.

The bags were first put on the metres on November 7 as way of encouraging people to shop locally. The bags are put on and removed at around the same time annually.

In Haliburton, Aldon estimates that there about 87 metres around the Village. The rate to park at most metres in town is set at \$1 per hour. ■



Dear Abby

by Abigail Van Buren

DEAR ABBY: I have been involved in several weddings, and something has come up we hope you can help with. Often with wedding gifts, the card becomes separated from the gift, or in the case of online retailers, they forget to enclose the sender's information in the box. How does one go about thanking people for their generous gift if you're not sure who the sender is? What is the solution, short of calling and telling people you didn't receive something from them and asking, "What did you get us?" — C.P. IN VAN NUYS

DEAR C.P.: To prevent cards from being separated from the wedding gifts when they arrive, they should immediately be placed inside the gift box — and what the item is should be written on the guest list. (The date it was received would also be helpful. If something arrives without a card, contact the store it came from, the online vendor who sent it or the company that delivered it. If they can't provide that information, then check your master list to see whose name has a blank next to it and call the person. Sometimes packages have been known to "fall off the truck," and this is a safeguard against theft.

**

**

DEAR ABBY: Last spring I suffered a stroke. Living alone, and with my family living 2,000 miles away, I became depressed. My daughter suggested that I get a pet. I discussed it with my doctor and he agreed. I adopted an adult dog from the Humane Society, and it has been one of the best decisions I have ever made. We walk every day, my depression is beginning to wane, and I have met my neighbors. Please encourage your readers to adopt from their local shelter. Not only will they be saving the life of an animal, but he may also wind up saving theirs. — JAN AND KARMA IN BARSTOW, CALIF.

DEAR JAN AND KARMA: It's a well-known fact that a pet can add quality to its owner's life not only by reducing stress, but also because responsible pet ownership requires establishing a regular routine that includes a healthy dose of exercise. I'm pleased to print your letter, for exactly the reason you mentioned, for anyone who could benefit from a dose of unconditional love.

BORN THIS WEEK: Your capacity for care and compassion helps to bring comfort to others.

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Although you're getting kudos and other positive reactions to your suggestions, don't let the cheers drown out some valid criticisms. Better to deal with them now than later.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Following your keen Bovine intuition pays off, as you not only reassess the suggestions some people are putting in front of you, but also their agendas for doing so.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You continue on a high-enthusiasm cycle as that new project you've assumed takes shape. You're also buoyed by the anticipation of receiving some good news about a personal matter.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Your eagerness to immerse yourself in your new assignment is understandable. But be careful that you don't forget to take care of that pressing personal situation as well.

LEO (July 23 to August 22) This is a good time to learn a new skill that could give a clever Cat an edge in the upcoming competition for workplace opportunities. Enjoy the arts this weekend with someone special.

VIRGO (August 23 to September 22) You could risk creating an impasse if you insist on expecting more from others than they're prepared to give. Showing flexibility in what you'll accept could prevent a stalemate.

LIBRA (September 23 to October 22) Although you can weigh all factors of a dispute to find an agreeable solution for others, you might need the skilled input of someone you trust to help you deal with an ongoing situation of your own.

SCORPIO (October 23 to November 21) The good news is that your brief period of self-doubt turns into a positive "I can do anything" attitude. The better news is that you'll soon be able to prove it.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 to December 21) This is a good time for Sagittarians to start making travel plans while you can still select from a wide menu of choices and deals, and not be forced to settle for leftovers.

CAPRICORN (December 22 to January 19) Like your zodiacal sign, the sure-footed Goat, you won't allow obstacles in your path to keep you from reaching your goal. Don't be surprised by who asks to go along with you.

AQUARIUS (January 20 to February 18) Let your head dominate your heart as you consider the risks that might be involved in agreeing to be a friend's co-signer or otherwise act as his or her backup in a financial matter.

PISCES (February 19 to March 20) Prioritize: Resolve to close the door and let your voice mail take your phone calls while you finish up a task before the end-of-week deadline. Then go out and enjoy a fun-filled weekend.

Highlands Summer Festival 10th Anniversary 2000 - 2009

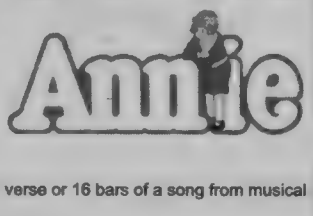
Audition Call

Audition packages available from Kitchens Etc. in Haliburton and The Storeroom in Minden

The Highlands Summer Festival is searching for actors for a variety of roles for the 2009 season. In particular, the company is looking for a young girl, who looks 10 to 12 years of age, who can sing and dance for the lead role in the musical Annie. As well, young girls of a various ages will be needed in the roles of orphans in this production. Auditions for these roles will be held on Saturday January 17 with call-backs on Sunday, January 18. Complete details on the audition process can be found at www.highlandsummerfestival.on.ca.

The Highlands Summer Festival also requires actors for the remaining cast of the musical Annie and the plays Butterflies are Free and Play On!. These auditions will take place on Saturday, January 24 with call-backs on Sunday, January 25. The following is a list of the roles being filled by this audition call:

Oliver (Daddy) Warbucks: A billionaire who opens his home and heart to Annie
Miss Hannigan: The cantankerous and hilarious orphanage matron
Grace Farrell: Oliver Warbucks' faithful Secretary
Rooster: Miss Hannigan's scheming brother
Lily St. Regis: Rooster's not-so-dumb, blonde accomplice
President Franklin D. Roosevelt: President who aids Warbucks in his search
Bert Healey: Radio announcer who broadcasts Annie's search for her parents.
The Boylyn Sisters: Singers on Bert Healey's radio show
And many other Cameo roles, various ages, both genders
Those attending the audition for roles in Annie should come prepared to sing one verse or 16 bars of a song from musical theatre production other than Annie. Call-backs for adult roles on January 25.



Butterflies are Free and Play On!

Auditions for these productions will be held on Saturday, January 24, with call-backs on Sunday, January 25. These two comedies require fourteen players aged early twenties through to sixties in both genders. The characters include:

Butterflies are Free

Don: Young man early 20's
Mrs. Baker: Don's protective mother

Jill: Free-spirited hippie, late teens
Ralph Austin: A director friend of Jill's

PLAY ON!

(Some of the roles can be played by either a man or a woman)

Aggie Manville: A stage manager and prompter
Henry Benish: An aging character actor, 60
Marla "Smitty" Smith: A young actor just starting out in her career, 17
Billy Carewe: an athletic young man of spirit, 25
Phyllis Montague: A novice playwright in the community

Geraldine: "Gerry" Dunbar: A community theatre director
Polly Benish: An aging character actress, 60
Saul Watson: actor, a villain, 45
Violet Imbry: The not too bright Ingenue, 22
Louise Perry: a sound and lighting technician, 35

"It is the Highlands Summer Festival's tenth season," executive producer Betty Mills noted. "We are looking forward to giving as many people as possible the opportunity to be on stage this year, so I encourage everyone who has an interest in live theatre to consider auditioning for a role."

The Festival is also looking for individuals to assist in other areas. In pre-production work there is a need for carpenters, painters, seamstresses and others to help before the shows hit the stage. In backstage work including stage managers, assistant stage manager, stage hands, technicians, etc.
To book an audition time and more information, contact Betty Mills at 457-1354.
Call the same number if you are interested in assisting with off-stage duties.
Or check out our website: www.highlandsummerfestival.on.ca

do something
this summer
Dramatic

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

2	6	1	9	3	4	8	7	5
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Haliburton Village BIA Request For Tender

1) To supply and install 50 hanging baskets for Main Street of Haliburton Village approx. 1st week of June '09.
Quote to include liner, soil, plants and slow release fertilizer. Note: 24" baskets supplied.

2) To supply regular maintenance, watering and fertilizing of above baskets from installation until approx. Oct. '09.

Quotes to be received on or before 12 noon January 24, 2009.

Mail to: Haliburton Village BIA
P.O. Box 1281 Haliburton, ON. K0M 1S0

Fax to: 705-457-2534

For information call:
Jim Frost, Administrator
Haliburton Village BIA 705-457-4031

Lowest or any quotation not necessarily accepted.

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County Voice *Easy to Read* Classifieds

Deadline for Classifieds is every Monday at noon

Pets & Agriculture

K9 CLIPPERS & KENNELS 2153 HARBURN ROAD. Professional Grooming Service & friendly, loving home away from home 1-705-457-3614 Natasha Coumbs. tfn

ARE YOU A GOLDEN RETRIEVER BELIEVER?

Golden Rescue, The Canadian Golden Retriever Adoption Service Inc. URGENTLY needs foster homes, vet services, "forever" homes, donations, members, fundraisers/volunteers. Help us care for this magnificent breed. Anything you can do would be greatly appreciated. For information please contact us at 1-866-712-8444 or visit www.golden-rescue.net. tfn

For Rent

FOR RENT: Large 4-Bedroom home in Haliburton overlooking lake. Available February 1. \$1350/mth. Appliances included. Non-smokers, no pets. Call 457-1214 January d 09

FOR RENT: In town—Walk to amenities. Renovated and bright 2-bedroom apartment with garage. Those who are NON SMOKING and have NO PETS are welcome to apply. HEAT INCLUDED! \$925 + hydro. Call 457-9108 and leave message. January d 09

FOR RENT One bedroom apartment between Minden and Haliburton, \$600/mo and \$650/mo for couple, utilities included, references, no pets, non-smoker, first and last required. Available Feb. 01. Pls. call Carmen @ 457-8849. January c 09

Wanting to rent

Responsible and quiet couple in their 30's and a baby on the way looking for a 2 bedroom house or apartment to rent within the Haliburton area. Need for February 1st. Can afford up to \$900 inclusive. Please call Buffy at 457-5001 Mon-Fri 9-5pm or 705-879-8113 after 5pm. January d 09

For Sale

FOR SALE - EVERYTHING MUST GO! - Cherry wood Crib - mattress included, mint condition \$400.00. Baby Swing - blue & beige in colour \$30.00. Wood Entertainment Centre with glass door (like new) \$250.00. Panasonic 27 inch colour tv \$50.00. ARE Tonneau Cover for short box GMC pickup truck \$300.00. Baby bassinet - green & beige in colour (used for only 7 months) \$70.00. Graco highchair \$70.00. Please contact Carrie or Ryan (705) 754-3625 January b 09

FOR SALE - Automotive, Snowmobile, ATV, Marine Parts & Accessories. Complete line of Hunting, Archery, Fishing tackle, Paintball, Soft Air Guns & Accessories, and Live Bait & Licensing. The Wild Outdoors formerly CC Enterprises. 163 Highland Street, Haliburton (705) 457-5334 Open 7 days a week. June 09

FOR SALE - NEW COMPLETE SEPTIC SYSTEMS. 30 Years of experience in Minden and Haliburton area. We take care of all paperwork and permits. Fully licenced, health unit inspected. Call for a free estimate, Brent Coltman Trucking and Escavating at 705-286-3952 or 1-800-357-8711 tfn

Vehicles For Sale

FOR SALE - 1998 Yamaha Vmax 600, 7000 kms, Mint condition, Asking \$3000.00 obo. Call (705) 286-0014. A must see!! January b 09

Wanted

WANTED - Old or antique used furniture, one piece or whole estates bought plus clean-up of everything also cars, trucks, boats trailers if the price is right I will make you a deal on anything call Richard in Tory Hill at 448-3920. Clean up of scrap cars or metal as well. tfn

Services

FROZEN PIPES: Water, septic, ice buildup, culverts. Call 286-1995 January d 09

WOODWORKER AVAILABLE: 20 years experience. From trim work to Timber framing. Quality assured. Call (705) 754-4065 January c 09

HOUSE PAINTING: Professional, meticulous and reasonable rates. Call Gailon Valteau (705) 457-3562 January b 09

SNOWPLOWING and Roof Shoveling around Minden Area. Call Dave Shaw for more information 286-6739 January b 09

DAYCARE SERVICES PROVIDED - Daycare provided in a caring, safe, clean home environment. Healthy meals and snacks will be offered, quality programming and flexible hours Monday through Friday. Competitive rates, tax receipts provided. Located minutes from the town of Minden. Please contact Vicki at 286-3046 for more information. January b 09

Services

ROOF SHOVELLING AVAILABLE. Soffit, Fascia, Vinyl Siding, Windows, Eavestrough and Roofing. Reasonable Rates. Call Greg Carpenter 455-2088 or 286-2059 January b 09

FTA SATELLITE SYSTEMS 1000's of channels, no program fees, all satellite system installs. 306-0023 (local call) tfn

ODD job jack-your local handyman 448-9965 For any and all odd jobs. What can we do for you? Email oddjobjack@yahoo.ca tfn

Notices

CELEBRATE RECOVERY, A Christ-centered recovery group for all of life's hurts, habits, and hang-ups. A time of worship, teaching, Small Groups, and community. Meet others journeying this same road as you, & take steps towards freedom from the addictive, compulsive and dysfunctional behaviours that hold your life back. Every Monday Night 7 - 10 PM at Lakeside Baptist Church, 9 Park Street, Haliburton. 457-2851 www.celebraterecovery.com tfn

Events

Stew Luncheon
Haliburton United Church
Saturday, January 17th
11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
Tickets at the door
Takeout available

Help Wanted

Ridgewood Ford Sales has an opportunity for full-time, year round employment, in their clean-up and re-conditioning department. Drivers license in good standing required. Training provided.

To apply mail resume to
Ridgewood Ford Sales Limited
P.O. Box 800, Minden, ON. K0M 2K0

Senior Accountant

Are you an experienced accountant with excellent attention to detail? Do you work well within a team, learning from your teammates and sharing your knowledge? Do you take pride in getting things done right, but are not afraid to look beyond the routines to make things better? Are you currently working towards a professional accounting designation and have at least three years accounting experience? Do you love what you do and know how to have fun? Send your resume to:

Dorothy Huhtalo,
Patient News Publishing Ltd.
P. O. Box 822,
Haliburton, ON
K0M 1S0

Fax (705) 457-5273 dhhuhtalo@patientnews.com
Only those applicants selected for an interview will be contacted.


PATIENT NEWS
PUBLISHING


For Four Years
In A Row!

Events

THE WILD OUTDOORS 1ST ANNUAL ICE FISHING DERBY

\$20 ENTRY FEE

*Based on a field of 100. Runs until March 31st 5:00pm. Largest single fish. Haliburton County only. Weigh-In at The Wild Outdoors.

PRIZES
\$1000.00 1st
\$500.00 2nd
\$250.00 3rd

BONUS PRIZE
Purchase your minnows at The Wild Outdoors the morning of weighing in the Biggest Fish and WIN A DAY ON THE WATER with FISH'n CANADA PRO Mike Miller

REGISTRATION: IN STORE
7:00AM / 7 DAYS A WEEK 457-5334

With so many copies going so many places...

no wonder our classifieds work!
call
457-5001

DEATH NOTICES



Christine 'Jerry' Geraldine Palmer (Resident of Haliburton, Ontario)

Christine 'Jerry' Geraldine Palmer, praised as a hardworking farmer's wife when living in Richmond Hill, retired with her husband Ralph and moved to their dream home in Haliburton, where she quickly became a significant community member, an avid golfer and curler, a respected member of the "Red Hats", and an established painter of folk art. She was the person everyone knew to call when in need, as she was always there.

After a brave battle with cancer, it is with great sadness that we announce the passing of our mother and wife on Friday afternoon, January 9, 2009 in her 76th year. Loving wife of Ralph for 56 years. Devoted mother of Jude (Dave), Ray (Laura), Brian (Julie-deceased), Dwayne (Susan), Carole (Marton), Wendy (Ellen) and David (Pauline). Cherished Grandma to 14 grandchildren and Great Grandma to 6. Sadly missed by sisters Shirley (Reg-deceased), Joyce (George), Jackie (Lloyd-deceased), a brother Ian-deceased, Betty (Courtney) and Susan (Lloyd).

She was loving and accepting of all who entered her life, and those who did were honored to know her, but in her own humble way she would say that it was an honor to have known all of you.

Visitation & Memorial Service

Friends are invited to visit with the family at the HALIBURTON COMMUNITY FUNERAL HOME 13523 Hwy. #118, Haliburton, Ontario (705) 457-9209 on Wednesday afternoon, January 14, 2009 from 1 o'clock until the time of Memorial Service in the Chapel at 2 o'clock. As expressions of sympathy please consider donations to the Canadian Breast Cancer Foundation Ontario Region in support of Jerry's Joggers Run Team. Jerry will forever live on through her children.

www.communityfuneralhomes.com



Kids Get Together in Stanhope

Club Activities Offer Crafts, Games, Movies and More

The new Stanhope Kids Club launched on Friday, Jan. 9, and due to a successful turnout, will continue to run on the second and fourth Friday of every month.

A total of nine children between the ages of six and 12, along with parents and family members attended the club event on its opening night at the Stanhope Community Centre. At the event, kids could be seen interacting with one another as they played various games and worked on arts and crafts.

The Stanhope Kids Club is sponsored by the Stanhope Recreation Committee.

For more information or to register your child call 705 766-9968 or email drc@algonquinhighlands.ca. ■



CENTURY 21 GRANITE REALTY GROUP INC.

Expands professional team to include

Deborah Deremo and Andrea Wilson

Derrell and Kim Stamp, Broker/Owners of CENTURY 21 GRANITE REALTY GROUP Inc. are pleased to announce that Deborah Deremo and Andrea Wilson have joined our firm.

Deb and Andrea's family have enjoyed the benefits of the Haliburton Highlands for several generations. With their accumulated business experience, they have gained substantial knowledge in award winning customer service. Their enjoyment truly comes from assisting others and with their initiative and strong commitment to excellence, they offer quality, trusted service to create lasting relationships. Whether you're buying or selling, Deb and Andrea would enjoy the opportunity to help make your real estate experience a positive and successful one with Century 21, the most recognized name in real estate.

The Century 21 system is a real estate organization with superior training programs, the most up-to-date technology in the industry and strong marketing support.

They can be reached at the Haliburton Office at (705) 457-2128, Ext. 25, by e-mail: DebandAndrea@sympatico.ca or their website: www.DebandAndrea.com

Each office is independently owned & operated

Kindergarten Registration

January 19 to 23, 2009

at your local elementary school



All-day / alternate-day programs

Junior Kindergarten students must be 4 years old by December 31, 2009

French Immersion

Information Meetings

Haliburton: Stuart Baker ES Jan. 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Potential French Immersion students may register at their local school for JK or they may register at the French Immersion school in their area.

After March 31st, registration of out-of-area JK students at French Immersion schools will only be permitted if space is available.

To register your child, please bring:

- ☐ Proof of age for each child
- ☐ Name of family doctor
- ☐ Doctor's telephone number
- ☐ Ontario Health Card number
- ☐ Child's Immunization record
- ☐ Residence road name and 911 address
- ☐ Residence lot and concession number
- ☐ Assessment roll number

Find the phone number for your local elementary school at

www.tlidsb.on.ca

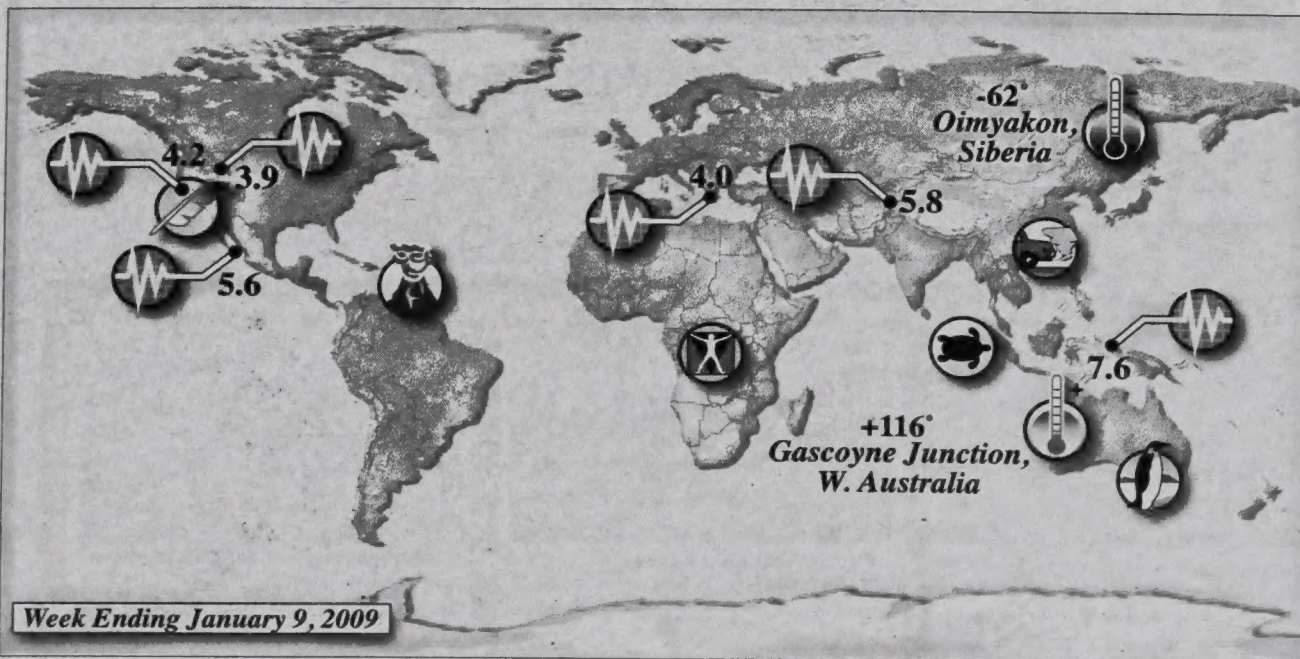
or in your Yellow Pages

Call 1.888.526.5552 x 22129 for more information

Rick Johnson, TRUSTEE CHAIR | Kathy Verduyn, DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

Earthweek: A Diary of the Planet

By Steve Newmar



Light Confusion

Artificial light shining from the world's cities is leading wildlife in the wrong directions, often to their deaths, according to a new study. Writing in the journal *Frontiers in Ecology and the Environment*, biophysics researcher Gabor Horvath explained that many animals are also thrown off course by light reflecting from manmade sources. The dark smooth glass of tall buildings and other structures horizontally polarize the light that reflects off them, indicating to wildlife that they are bodies of water. Dragonflies and other insects often lay their eggs in ponds, streams and lakes, and mistaking these objects for water can be deadly. Baby sea turtles use the direction of star- and moonlight reflections off water surfaces to help them find the ocean when they emerge from their beach nests. Many turtles turn the wrong way and migrate toward the brighter lights of nearby cities.

Pelican Fatalities

A large number of adult pelicans have suddenly begun to die from a mysterious malady along the coast of southern Oregon, southward to California and Baja California. Hundreds of disoriented birds have turned up wandering along roads and crashing into cars or boats. Still others have been found dead. "These birds are on the freeway, getting run over," said Jay Holcomb, executive director of the International Bird Rescue Research Center in San Pedro, Calif. Some experts think a marine neurotoxin created by microscopic algae could be killing the birds. Others think affected pelicans may have ingested chemicals from fire retardants used to fight Southern California's firestorms last year, flushed into the ocean by recent heavy rainfall.

Smog Exodus

Hong Kong's smog has become so severe that it is causing at least 10,000 deaths each year, according to health officials. Pollution levels rose last year to the highest since records began, prompting about 1 in 5 residents to consider moving away. A survey found that 500,000 were "seriously considering or already planning to move." The thick smog that often chokes Hong Kong, Macao and neighboring China comes mainly from the huge number of factories in Guangdong province and other areas of southern China.

Ebola Outbreak Source

A dead monkey found in a forest of the Democratic Republic of the Congo could be one of the sources behind the recent outbreak of Ebola in the country's southwestern Kasai province. The World Health Organization (WHO) says that improper handling of dead monkeys felled by the virus could have infected hunters and women who came in contact with the simians. According to WHO statistics, three cases of the hemorrhagic fever have recently been recorded, with at least another 36 suspected cases that include 12 deaths possibly linked to the disease.

Caribbean Ash

Activity at Montserrat's Soufriere Hills volcano sent plumes of ash blowing over neighboring islands of the Caribbean during the first week of 2009. The mountain produced an explosive eruption in early December and has continually released plumes ever since. The latest explosions led to the evacuation of approximately 70 people on Montserrat and sent a considerable amount of ash blowing into nearby Antigua.

Earthquakes

The strongest in a series of earthquakes that rocked eastern Indonesia killed four people and injured dozens of others in buildings wrecked by the shaking. The 7.6 magnitude quake, centered in Papua province was felt as far away as Australia and sent small tsunamis into southern Japan, thousands of miles away.

• One woman in southwestern Greece died when a wall of the compound where she lived collapsed during a mild earthquake centered off shore from the Peloponnese.

• Earth movements were also felt in eastern Afghanistan, northwestern Mexico, Wyoming's Yellowstone National Park and far northern part of the San Francisco Bay Area.

Fairy Protection

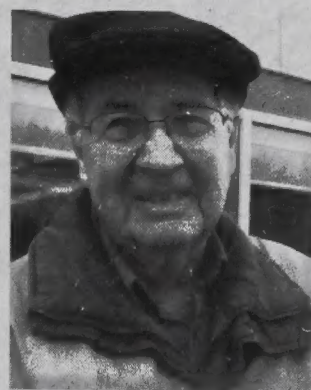
The success at using sheep dogs as guardians for colony of endangered fairy penguins in southern Australia may lead to the canines being recruited to keep other endangered animals from being savaged by predators. The Italian Maremma breed of sheepdog was enlisted two years ago as a last resort after the number of penguins on an island of the Victorian city of Warrnambool dwindled from 1,000 to just 10 due to attacks by non-native predators. Maremmas are well known for their trait of bonding with flocks of animals and even laying down their lives to protect them. "We've had our best penguin count since we began in 2006 with over 80 birds counted in on night, and I think we have about 20 chicks on the island too," said Middle Island Maremma Project manager Ian Fitzgibbons.

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www.earthweek.com

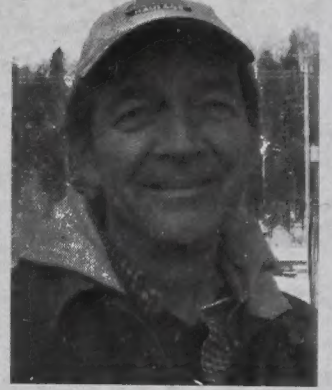
© MMIX Earth Environment Service

Have Your Say...
VOX POP

We asked people in Minden, "What's your opinion of Laurie Scott's decision to resign as MPP for Haliburton-Kawartha Lakes-Brock in order to give her seat to Conservative leader John Tory?"



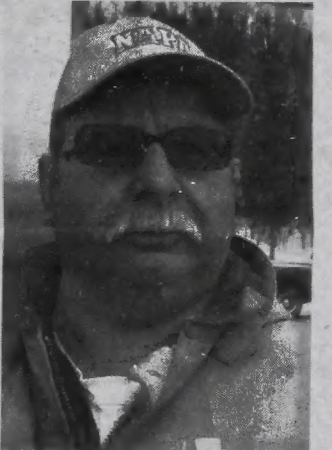
Ben Detinger, Minden – "I'm not impressed. I think she's let down her riding. I've voted for her in the past and I think she's been effective in her role. John Tory is a man who doesn't have a good record and isn't familiar with the area."



Grant Lickiss, Lindsay – "She took one for the team. I think John Tory works hard, the problem has just been that nobody has wanted to give up their seat. I think the tough part will be trying to live up to what Laurie Scott did."



Keith Welborn, Minden – "I think it sucks. I definitely have mixed feeling about it. Laurie has been visible in the community. I'm actively involved with the Legion and she would show up at everything. But it's hard to criticize, because she's got to go with what her heart tells her to do."



Peter Robinson, Lindsay – "It sucks. No one likes John Tory – he can't win a seat anywhere. I knew Laurie's dad before he went into politics and the family has been in government. Laurie's been good. I wouldn't vote for Tory. I never did like him."

WAKE UP WITH RYAN & RICK IN THE MORNING.

MOOSE FM

HALIBURTON - MINDENS CLASSIC ROCK 93.5



Granite Realty Group Inc. Real Estate Brokerage

FOUR OFFICES SERVICING HALIBURTON COUNTY

Haliburton 457-2128 Kennisis 754-2100

Minden 286-2138 Carnarvon 489-9968

The Local Experts™

Location, Location, Location: \$199,900



Location: 2 BR home + cottage on quiet rd. Location: mins from Haliburton; Location: across from dock on Lk. Kashagawigamog.; It's got it all!

Tom Wilkinson 286-2138

Opportunity Knocks \$34,900



Put your dock in - if you enjoy fishing & swimming this property offers direct access to beautiful Miskwabi Lake. Some zoning restrictions.

Deborah Deremo & Andrea Wilson 457-2128

Level Riverfront Lot \$119,000



Minden's Gull River on Hunter Creek Rd. 200' of shoreline. Driveway in hydro & phone at lot line. Great boat ride downriver to Gull Lake.

Tom Ecclestone 286-2138

Minden Lake \$364,900



3 BR home/cottage with 167' of waterfront on picturesque Minden Lake. Quiet neighbourhood, great swimming, fishing & near White Water Reserve.

Paul Szpik - 457-2128

Attention Sledders \$179,900



Wonderful year round cottage/home with all the amenities, close to trails, shopping and lake access nearby!

Derrell and Kim Stamp 457-2128

Charming 3 Bedroom \$139,000



Cozy home with 1 1/2 bath is set on a very private 9.81 acre lot, a portion is fenced to house animals, 30x30 insulated, heated shop is drywalled, also features a bunkie.

Greg Stamp 457-2128

Private Eagle Lk Lot \$134,500



More than 3.5 acres, 414 ft of road frontage, over 200 ft of great clean shoreline. Boat on the 2 lake chain. Enjoy Sir Sam's in the winter!

Wilf VanLieshout - 457-2128

Little Hawk Road Access- \$309,000



Lovingly maintained, insulated 2 BR Cottage + 2 BR bunkie, boathouse, garage, gravity fed well & screened in room. Gorgeous view & great shoreline for watersports!

Dagmar Boettcher- 286-2138

Ski Chalet \$449,000



Ski in and out of this stunning new 3 BR, 3 Bath chalet at Sir Sam's Ski Hill. Full finished bsmt & w/o. Large wrap around decks. Spectacular view of Eagle Lake.

Andrew Hodgson - 286-2128

Beech River \$359,000



3 BR Waterfront home, private setting with that "cottage" feel. Sandy shoreline, deep water off dock with excellent access to Beech & Boshkung Lakes.

Anne Moulton 286-2138

Home on 1 Acre \$127,900



Cute 2 bedroom home near Carnarvon with many recent upgrades. Close to snowmobile trail and public access to Kushog Lake.

Kristin Withey 286-2138

One of A Kind! \$689,000



5 BR, 5 bath 4000 sq. ft. cedar home. Former B&B, Triple garage. Studio & wkshp. Close to schools. Docking on Kashag. chain. Open concept, hardwood flrs. Impressive kitchen, John Hincks 286-2138

Great Building Lots



Terrific location on Soyers Lake Rd, mins to golf, shops & all amenities. 3.67 acres - \$34,900 & 6.1 acres - \$39,900. Buy both for a wonderful estate lot!

Erin Nicholls 457-2128

Little Boshkung \$310,000



"Privacy+++ fabulous sunset view, sleeps 8 and is the sweetest cottage in Haliburton with 300 feet of shoreline"

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

Natural Wonder \$279,900



Super 3 BR cottage on Trooper Lake. Very private, nice sand shoreline & deep water off dock. New winter water system. Yr rnd pvt rd.

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128

Chalet +5 Acres \$239,000



Privacy plus 3 bedrooms with separate living quarters. Enjoy the hot tub and pool. Clear lake and the town of Minden are close by.

Janice Brookes 457-2128

Country Privacy - In Town \$549,000



Energy efficient home features; open concept, stone FP, beautiful landscaping, massive covered wrap-around deck, & 3300+ sq ft of living elegance.

Drew Bishop - 457-2128

Green Lake \$239,900



Beautiful south facing lot with sand beach and great low maintenance 4 yr old home with full partially finished basement.

Lee Gauthier 489-9968

In Town Location \$209,900



Cute 3 BR home with hardwood floors & Main Floor laundry. Beautiful landscaped corner lot. Walk to downtown Haliburton!

Mark Dennys 457-2128

Miskwabi Lake \$339,900



Bright, modern cottage/home with big lake view, deep, clean shoreline. Open-concept, full w/o bsmt, furnace, & heated line. Year rnd mun. rd.

Susanne James & Andy Mosher 457-2128

* Sales Representative ** Broker *** Broker of Record



Drew Bishop ** 457-2128



Janice Brookes * 457-2128



Dagmar Boettcher * 286-2138



Deborah Deremo** & Andrea Wilson* 457-2128



Mark Dennys * 457-2128



Tom Ecclestone * 286-2138



Lee Gauthier ** 489-9968



John Hincks ** 286-2138



Andrew Hodgson * 286-2138



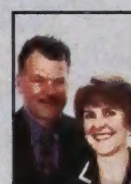
Susanne James * & Andy Mosher ** 457-2128



Anne Moulton * 286-2138



Erin Nicholls* 457-2128



Derrell Stamp *** & Kim Stamp ** 457-2128



Greg Stamp * 457-2128



Paul Szpik * 457-2128



Wilfred VanLieshout** 457-2128



Tom Wilkinson ** 286-2138



Kristin Withey * 286-2138

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